

NUCLEAR REACTOR LABORATORY
AN INTERDEPARTMENTAL CENTER OF
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



O. K. HARLING
Director

138 Albany Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-4296
Telefax No. (617) 253-7300
Telex No. 92-1473-MIT-CAM
Tel. No. (617) 253-4202

J. A. BERNARD, JR.
Director of Reactor Operations

September 25, 1995

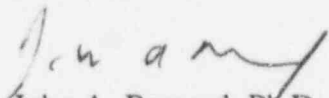
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555
Attn: Document Control Desk

Subject: Response to NRC Inspection No. 50-20/95-02

Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to the 1st paragraph of Section 9 of NRC Inspection Report No. 50-20/95-02. That paragraph states that, "Written guidance should be provided to the reactor operators for dealing with equipment malfunctions...". We are in agreement with this recommendation and, as reported verbally to Region I earlier, we have prepared the appropriate written guidance. However, it appears that such guidance is not needed at this time. Our letter of 09/22/95 outlined corrective action that had been taken in regard to the operational event that is discussed in this Inspection Report. One of those actions was to obtain the services of two electronic engineers and a technician for purposes of reviewing various electronic circuits associated with operation of the MIT Research Reactor. In addition to that action, we have made a number of personnel changes within our own organization. This included the assignment of two SRO licensed individuals who have extensive electronics training to supervise reactor instrumentation. We are pleased to report that as a result of both of these changes, the equipment malfunctions that are referenced in the NRC Inspection Report have been rectified. Accordingly, the directions contained in our existing operational checklist are adequate and there is no need at this time for additional written guidance. We will keep the written guidance that we have prepared on file for your review at some future date and also for possible use should it be needed. We are continuing our efforts to examine all electronic circuitry so as to be certain that it is functioning properly. At present, we believe that this is the case.

Sincerely,


John A. Bernard, Ph.D.
Director of Reactor Operations
MIT Research Reactor

JAB:CRM

cc: USNRC - Senior Project Manager,
NRR/ONDD

USNRC - Region I - Project Scientist,
Effluents Radiation Protection Section (ERPS)
FRSSB/DRSS

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