

December 19, 1996

Mr. Louis G. Henry  
Manager of Environmental & Safety  
Services/BMRC Decommissioning  
Project Manager  
Buffalo Materials Research Center  
State University of New York  
Rotary Road  
Buffalo, New York 14214

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Dear Mr. Henry:

In order to complete our review of your application for a possession-only license (POL) and a Certified Fuel Handler Program (CFHP) for the Pulstar Reactor at the State University of New York at Buffalo, submitted by your letter of July 23, 1996 and August 6, 1996, we need additional information. Please provide answers to the questions in the enclosure to this letter within 60 days of the date of this letter and revise the Technical Specifications in your POL application, and the CFHP to incorporate the proposed responses. If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-1102.

This requirement affects nine or fewer respondents and, therefore, is not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under P.L. 96-511.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Theodore S. Michaels, Senior Project Manager  
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning  
Project Directorate  
Division of Reactor Program Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-57

Enclosure:  
As stated

cc w/enclosure  
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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Theodore S. Michaels".

Theodore S. Michaels, Senior Project Manager  
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning  
Project Directorate  
Division of Reactor Program Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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State University of New York  
at Buffalo

Docket No. 50-57

cc:

Dr. Paul J. Merges, Director  
Bureau of Radiation, DHSR  
NYS Department of Environmental  
Conservation  
50 Wolf Road  
Albany, New York 12233-7255

Mr. John P. Spath  
NYS Energy Research and Development  
Authority  
Corporate Plaza West  
286 Washington Avenue Extension  
Albany, New York 12203-6399

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
Pertaining to the State University of New York's request  
for a Possession-Only License and a  
Certified Fuel Handler Program

POSSESSION-ONLY LICENSE

General Questions

1. Discuss additional measures that will be taken to ensure that  $K_{eff}$  will not be increased above the  $K_{eff}$  existing in the initial fuel "stored" on the grid plate as a part of this amendment request, and revise the Technical Specifications (TS) accordingly.
2. Discuss how knowledgeable persons will be available at all times to respond to potential events at the Buffalo Materials Research Center. These persons should have knowledge of important systems such as pool water level and radiation detection instrumentation and alarms.
3. Discuss how measures will be taken to continuously provide radiation monitoring of the gaseous effluents from the building. This discussion could also address proposed allowed system outage times to permit maintenance or other expected occurrences.

Specific Questions

1. Proposed TS Section 2.1, "Criticality Limit"

Since this amendment is for "Possession-only," would a better title for this section be "Authorized Activities?"

2. Proposed TS Section 10.3, "Irradiated Fuel Storage and Transfer"

Please clarify the terms in this specification with regard to "assemblies" and "elements."

3. Figure 1, Section 11.0, "Administration"

Please provide an updated Organizational Structure. This figure is adequate if only the titles are given.

4. Proposed TS Sections 11.4.2.4)c) and 15.1.4

Since changes to possession-only licenses can now be made through the 50.59 procedures, section 16 is no longer needed and the references to this section in these sections should be deleted.

5. Proposed TS Section 16.0

Since changes to possession-only licenses can now be made through the 50.59 procedures, section 16 is no longer needed and should be deleted.

6. Proposed TS Section 15.3

This section should be rewritten as follows: A written report shall be forwarded within 30 days to the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation with a copy to the Regional Administrator Region I in the event of---

CERTIFIED FUEL HANDLER RECERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Section 4.0

1. How many questions will be on the written exam in Section 4.1?
2. An oral exam, to be given annually, should also be included in this section, including the provision for failure to pass the oral exam.