



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

FEB 21 1997

J. J. Phillips, Director
Omaha Veterans Administration
Medical Center
4101 Woolworth Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska 68105

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-131/97-01 AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Phillips:

An NRC reactive inspection was conducted January 24, 1997, at your TRIGA Mark I reactor facility in response to NRC's identification that the only active operator license for the facility had expired about six months earlier. The enclosed report presents the scope and results of that inspection.

A violation was identified because the facility's reactor had been operated by an individual whose senior reactor operator license was expired. The NRC noted that the individual maintained a continuing participation in the facility's reactor operator requalification program during the period when the license was expired. NRC also noted that you promptly committed, in writing, to appropriate immediate corrective actions once the violation was identified. While no adverse safety consequences were identified to have resulted from the violation, the operation of the facility's reactor by an individual with an expired operator license is of regulatory concern. NRC expects a high level of attention to detail in all aspects of reactor operations and strict compliance with regulatory requirements. This violation and the circumstances surrounding it indicate that attention to detail and to compliance with NRC requirements need to be improved at your facility.

This violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding the violation are described in detail in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

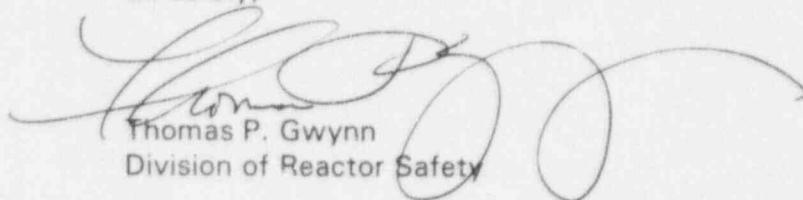
In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure(s), and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR). To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction.

Omaha Veterans Administration
Medical Center

-2-

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,



Thomas P. Gwynn
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No.: 50-131
License No.: R-57

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report
50-131/97-01

cc:

John Claassen
Reactor Manager/Supervisor
Omaha Veterans Administration
Medical Center
4101 Woolworth Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska 68105

Test, Research and Training
Reactor Newsletter
202 Nuclear Sciences Center
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611

Nebraska Radiation Control Program Director

Omaha Veterans Administration
Medical Center

-3-

E-Mail report to T. Boyce (THB)
E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

J. E. Dyer, ARA

MIS System

RIV File

Lisa A. Shea, OC/LFDCB

A. Adams, NRR/DOPS/ONDD

S. H. Weiss, NRR/DOPS/ONDD

DRS AI 96-G-0031

DOCUMENT NAME: R:\Nonpower\VA601RP.LTR

To receive copy of document, indicate in box: "C" = Copy without enclosures "E" = Copy with enclosures "N" = No copy

SRS:PSB	E	C:PSB	E	PB:NRR	N	D:DRS	N		
LTRicketson:cg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BMurray	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AAdams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TPGwynn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
02/1/97		02/1/97		02/1/97		02/1/97			

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Omaha Veterans Administration
Medical Center

-3-

E-Mail report to T. Boyce (THB)
E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

bcc to DMB ~~(POT)~~

bcc distrib. by RIV:

J. E. Dyer, ARA

MIS System

RIV File

Lisa A. Shea, OC/LFDCB

A. Adams, NRR/DOPS/ONDD

S. H. Weiss, NRR/DOPS/ONDD

DRS AI 94-G-0031

DOCUMENT NAME: R:\Nonpower\VA601RP.LTR

To receive copy of document, indicate in box: "C" = Copy without enclosures "E" = Copy with enclosures "N" = No copy

SRS:PSB	E	C:PSB	E	PB:NRR	N	D:DRS	N
LTRicketson:cg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BMurray	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AAdams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TPGwynn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
02/1/97		02/1/97		02/1/97		02/1/97	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

270008

