



Georgia Institute of Technology

College of Engineering
Office of the Dean

September 12, 2000

Docket No. 50-160

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Attention: Mr. Marvin M. Mendonca, Senior Project Manager
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Subject: Monthly Status Report for Georgia Tech Research Reactor (GTRR) D&D Project

References: 1. Enclosure 2, Status Report, Georgia Tech letter dated October 6, 1997
2. Georgia Tech Research Reactor NRC Amendment 14 to Facility License No. R-97.
3. NRC Docket No. 50-160

Dear Mr. Mendonca:

Enclosed for your information is the status report for the Georgia Tech Research Reactor decommissioning program covering activities for the month of August 2000.

Please note that schedule slippage continues to occur in the decommissioning project. Delays are due primarily to the difficulty in removal of the reactor bioshield. The decommissioning contractor is now forecasting completion of decommissioning operations on 13 October 2000, and completion of the final survey report on 22 November 2000. **The NRC confirmatory survey is now estimated to begin in April 2001. The Decommissioning Contractor will complete his final report by the end of January 2001, and we have allowed a 60-day NRC review period (Feb-Mar 2001) prior to the ORISE Confirmatory Survey. We will make every effort to keep you informed of any further schedule slippage as we approach the end of the project.**

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact our project manager, Mr. Bill Miller, at 404-894-4610.

Sincerely,

J. Narl Davidson
Associate Dean
College of Engineering
Chair, Technical Safety Review Committee

Cc: Dr. G. Wayne Clough, President, Georgia Institute of Technology
Mr. Robert K. Thompson, SVP, Georgia Institute of Technology
Ms. Amelia Gambino, Georgia Tech Office of Communications
Mr. Craig H. Bassett, USNRC Atlanta
Mr. Jon M. Richards, USEPA, Region IV
Mr. Thomas Hill, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
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MONTHLY STATUS REPORT – August 2000

Docket No. 50-160

Georgia Tech Research Reactor (GTRR) Decommissioning Program
September 12, 2000

A. General

The GTRR remains under a safe shutdown condition. The reactor facility is in compliance with its license conditions and current technical specifications (10CFR50.51(b)).

B. Activities that took place during the month of August 2000:

1. The GTRR Technical Safety Review Committee (TSRC) met on August 10, 2000, and August 30, 2000 to review the progress of decommissioning and to approve plans and procedures submitted by the Decommissioning Contractor.

2. Decommissioning operations continued during the month without incident and in a safe manner. The Decommissioning Contractor (DC) has worked approximately 38,000 man-hours with no lost time accidents. No first aid cases or OSHA recordable injuries have occurred in the past seven consecutive months.

3. Decommissioning operations went on a two-shift, 14-hour work day beginning August 21st, resulting in a substantial increase in production rate.

4. Mr. Craig Bassett, NRC Region IV, conducted NRC inspection of decommissioning operations on 8/22 and 8/23. There were no deficiencies or findings identified.

5. Decommissioning operations:

- Continued destructive removal and packaging of high density concrete from the bioshield. A total of 240 tons has been removed from the bioshield to date. Destruction of the bioshield is now approximately 70 % complete;
- Completed removal of bioshield embedded metal components: five horizontal beam gate/port tubes; two through tubes on left side; 2nd spent fuel hole; all vertical port tubes on left side, top steel plate and upper steel ring above core tank support structure; two shim rod drive tubes and drive boxes, two isotope chamber boxes from lead tank and subfloor area, four fission chamber tubes from left side;
- Removed and stored zinc bromide from medical room window;
- Completed removal of Low Level Waste (LLW) System components, including 2 of 3 LLW storage tanks;
- Completed two waste shipments (8 B-25 boxes) of bioshield concrete to GTS Duratek. (Shipped to date: 430 tons of waste in 16 Sealands, 51 B-25 Boxes, 2 six-pack drums of liquids, and one cask liner to Barnwell.)

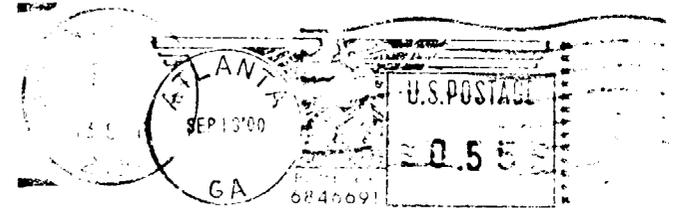
C. Planned Activities for the month of September 2000:

- Continue demolition, segregation, and packaging of bioshield concrete concentrating on the right side of the bioshield;
- Remove remaining embedded metal components, beam gate tubes and spent fuel holes;
- Fully expose the lead tank and re-evaluate technical approach for removal of the lead tank;
- Remove the biomedical column steel shaft behind lead tank;
- Remove activated pedestal concrete;
- Reinstall Low Level Waste System.



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