

May 11, 2001

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

Reference: Oregon State University TRIGA Reactor (OSTR)
Docket No. 50-243, License No. R-106

Subject: Notice of Failure to Meet Required SRO Medical Examination
Frequency

Gentlemen:

Situation

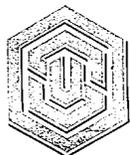
The biennial medical examination requirement for reactor operators is listed in the OSTR Annual Surveillance and Maintenance Procedures (OSTROP 16, item 19) with a Due Date and Date Completed entry. On April 17, 2001 it was discovered that Steven R. Reese, who is a Senior Reactor Operator and Reactor Administrator for the OSTR, had exceeded his March 2, 2001 deadline for his reactor operator medical examination. In the time between March 2 and March 31, Dr. Reese had operated the OSTR four times for a total of 3.68 hours and had served as SRO-in-charge once for 0.25 hours. In the time between April 1 and April 17, Dr. Reese had operated the OSTR five times for a total of 0.97 hours and had served as SRO-in-charge twice for a total of 2.40 hours. 0.97 hours of time between March 2 and April 17 were concurrent (operator and SRO-in-charge).

Corrective Action

Upon discovery, on April 17 Dr. Reese was suspended from operation of the OSTR. He immediately scheduled his medical examination. On April 18 Al Adams, Senior Project Manager for the OSTR, was notified of this situation by telephone. On April 27 the medical examination of Dr. Reese was conducted. Based on the satisfactory results of that examination, Dr. Reese was reinstated to operate the OSTR on April 30, 2001.

Actions Taken to Prevent Reoccurrence

The Director has discussed this issue with the Reactor Administrator, the Reactor Supervisor, and the Chairman of the Reactor Operations Committee. The Director has also issued an Information Bulletin to the Reactor Operations staff describing this event, stressing the importance of meeting all deadlines, and reinforcing that the primary responsibility for operator-related deadlines (license



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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Page 2

May 11, 2001

expiration, medical examinations, etc.) lies first with the Reactor Operator, then his/her supervisor, and so on up the organizational structure. As a further step to supplement the Reactor Operations staff's execution of this item, a separate backup "tickler" file has been set up by the Radiation Center Office Coordinator to provide two month advance notice to the Reactor Operations staff about impending medical examination deadlines.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.
Executed on May 11, 2001

Sincerely,



Stephen E. Binney
Director

c: Alexander X. Adams, Senior Project Manager, USNRC
David Stewart-Smith, Oregon Office of Energy
Wilson C. Hayes, Vice Provost for Research
G. Richard Holdren, Interim Associate Vice Provost for Research
Jack F. Higginbotham, Chairman, Reactor Operations Committee
Steven R. Reese, Reactor Administrator
Kathryn M. Brock, Senior Health Physicist
Arthur D. Hall, Reactor Supervisor