

**UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
NUCLEAR REACTOR FACILITY**

U.S. MAIL ADDRESS
P.O. Box 400322
Charlottesville, VA
22904-4322

STREET ADDRESS
675 Old Reservoir Road
Charlottesville, VA 22903
Telephone: 434-982-5440
Fax: 434-982-5473

September 17, 2001

Mr. Alexander Adams, Jr., Senior Project Manager
Events Assessment, Generic Communications and Non-Power Reactors Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Mail Stop O12-D1
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Subject: Request for License Amendments to Delete the Current Physical Security Plan in its Entirety from Licenses R-66, Docket 50-62 (University of Virginia Reactor, UVAR) and R-123, Docket 50-396 (CAVALIER).

Dear Mr. Adams,

The University of Virginia Reactor Facility hereby requests that its Physical Security plan, dated July 1980, that is part of both of its reactor licenses (R-66 and R-123) be deleted in its entirety. The regulatory requirement for an NRC-approved physical security plan is based on the amount of special nuclear material a licensee possesses. The University of Virginia Reactor Facility now possesses an amount below the regulatory limit and will not, under these licenses, possess a quantity of material that would require a physical security plan in the future.

The University currently possesses approximately 283 grams of special nuclear material that is enriched to greater than 20% in the uranium-235 isotope, an amount defined in 10CFR73.2 as having a "low strategic significance". The four security requirements for this quantity of material are listed in 10CFR73.67(f) as follows:

(f) Fixed site requirements for special nuclear material of low strategic significance. Each licensee who possesses, stores, or uses special nuclear material of low strategic significance at a fixed site or contiguous sites, except those who are licensed to operate a nuclear power reactor pursuant to part 50, shall:

(1) Store or use the material only within a controlled access area,

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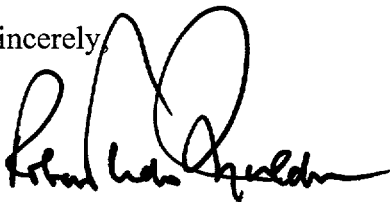
(2) Monitor with an intrusion alarm or other device or procedures the controlled access areas to detect unauthorized penetrations or activities,

(3) Assure that a watchman or offsite response force will respond to all unauthorized penetrations or activities, and

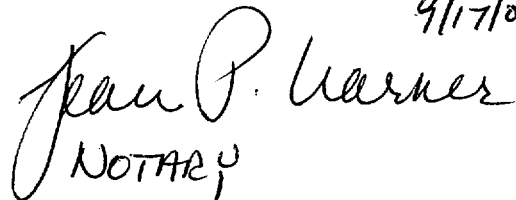
(4) Establish and maintain response procedures for dealing with threats of thefts or thefts of this material. The licensee shall retain a copy of the current response procedures as a record for three years after the close of period for which the licensee possesses the special nuclear material under each license for which the procedures were established. Copies of superseded material must be retained for three years after each change.

The University of Virginia will meet these requirements with written internal procedures and the necessary systems and equipment until the remaining special nuclear material is returned to an entity of the Federal Government. After such time, the University will possess less than a low-strategic significance amount of special nuclear material.

Sincerely,



Robert U. Mulder, Director
University of Virginia Reactor Facility

9/17/01

NOTARY

My Commission Expires November 30, 2004

cc: Craig Bassett
USNRC, Region II
61 Forsyth St., Suite 23T85 NW
Atlanta, GA 30323

