



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

GLENN L. MARTIN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
A. JAMES CLARK SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Department of Materials and Nuclear Engineering

Aris Christou, Chairman

Building 090
College Park, Maryland 20742-2115
301.405.5208 TEL 301.314.2029 FAX
christou@eng.umd.edu

November 8, 2001

Dr. Ashok Thadani, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-001

Dear Dr. Thadani:

Thank you for your letter of October 25, 2001. We are encouraged by your willingness to consider a proposal concerning the University 2x4 Loop. As part of this proposal, an extensive modernization of the facility should be undertaken, such as using infrared monitors of temperature, digital parameter read-out and remote control with a web operation interface. This would allow for the establishment of a network to be used in observation instruments centered on the Loop. This will also allow operation from a remote site, a highly desirable characteristic for teaching. In fact, it may be possible to construct a system so that the Loop may be operated remotely on a client PC with the user interface constructed on a WEB Browser. Any facility located at the University must be at the forefront of knowledge and instrumentation and a proposal to you will contain such features.

Finally, we are primarily concerned with education and training. It may be possible to carry out thermal hydraulic education including operation training at an external site. Amidst of the rapidly evolving network environment, it is expected that any remote control webinstrument system using networks will be increasingly utilized in a variety of fields in the future.

Professors Gavrilas and Wolf will take the lead in developing an aggressive, cutting edge proposal for you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Christou', written over a white background.

Aris Christou

cc: Lothar Wolf
Mirela Gavrilas