

March 31, 2004

Mr. Paul Benneche
Director, University of Virginia Reactor Facility
Department of Mechanical, Aerospace
and Nuclear Engineering
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA 22903-2442

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF FINAL STATUS SURVEY PLAN COVERAGE CHANGE FOR
LICENSE NO. R-66 - UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA (TAC NO. MA3737)

REFERENCES: 1. Letter from P. Benneche to D. E. Hughes, "Request for approval Final Status Survey Plan coverage consistent with MARSSIM requirements for the University of Virginia Reactor (License R-66)," dated December 5, 2003
2. Amendment No. 26 to Amended Facility Operating License No. R-66 for the University of Virginia Research Reactor, Docket 50-62, issued March 26, 2002
3. Transmittal R. U. Mulder to D. E. Hughes, "Transmittal of the University of Virginia Reactor Decommissioning Project Master Final Status Plan, UVA-FS-002, Rev. 0, March 2003," dated April 4, 2003
4. Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Site Investigation Manual (MARSSIM), Rev. 1, August 2000

Dear Mr. Benneche:

In response to your request of December 5, 2003 (Reference 1), the staff finds your proposed change in the beta and gamma surface scan coverage acceptable.

Amendment No. 26 to Amended Facility Operating License No. R-66 for the University of Virginia Research Reactor (Reference 2) includes license condition 3(4)b that states: "The licensee may make changes to the decommissioning plan without prior approval provided the proposed changes do not: (iv) Reduce the coverage requirements for scan measurements." Your request and the proposed University of Virginia Reactor Decommissioning Project Master Final Status Plan (Reference 3) proposes the scan coverage as 25 percent for Class 2 and 10 percent for Class 3 survey units for both beta and gamma surface scans. This is a reduction from the beta and gamma scans coverage of 100 percent for Class 2 and 25 percent for Class 3 that is stated in Section 4.4.3 of the UVA decommissioning plan (UVA 2000) (DP) that was approved with the issuance of Amendment No. 26.

It is understood that the scan coverage for Class 2 and Class 3 survey units that you stated in the DP were conservatively chosen at the upper end of the coverages allowed by the Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Site Investigation Manual (MARSSIM). As you have stated that conservatism was based on incomplete characterization information about areas that were inaccessible prior to the start of decommissioning activities and incomplete knowledge of the

effectiveness of radiological controls put in place during decommissioning activities. After commencing decommissioning activities you completed the characterization and verified the effectiveness of the radiological controls to prevent the spread of contamination from Class 1 survey units into Class 2 and 3 survey units. Based on this new information you have provided justification to use both beta and gamma surface scan coverage of 25 percent for Class 2 and 10 percent for Class 3 survey units.

The staff finds that since (i) the proposed change is consistent with the requirements of MARSSIM, (ii) the justification provided by the licensee is reasonable, (iii) the termination of the license will ultimately be based on the review, approval, and confirmation that the Final Status Survey demonstrates conformance with 10 CFR Part 20, Subpart E - Radiological Criteria for License Termination, and (iv) there is reasonable assurance that the change requested can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Daniel E. Hughes, Project Manager
Research and Test Reactors Section
New, Research and Test Reactors Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-62

cc: Please see next page

University of Virginia

Docket Nos. 50-62/396

cc:

Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Grants
Management and Intergovernmental Affairs
629 East Main Street, Sixth Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

Dr. William Vernetson
Director of Nuclear Facilities
Department of Nuclear Engineering
Sciences
University of Florida
202 Nuclear Sciences Center
Gainesville, FL 32611

Office of the Attorney General
900 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Radiological Health Program
Virginia Department of Health
P.O. Box 2448
Richmond, VA 23218

Dr. Ralph O. Allen, Chairman
Reactor Decommissioning Committee
Environmental Health and Safety
University of Virginia
P.O. Box 3425
Charlottesville, VA 22904

March 31, 2004

effectiveness of radiological controls put in place during decommissioning activities. After commencing decommissioning activities you completed the characterization and verified the effectiveness of the radiological controls to prevent the spread of contamination from Class 1 survey units into Class 2 and 3 survey units. Based on this new information you have provided justification to use both beta and gamma surface scan coverage of 25 percent for Class 2 and 10 percent for Class 3 survey units.

The staff finds that since (i) the proposed change is consistent with the requirements of MARSSIM, (ii) the justification provided by the licensee is reasonable, (iii) the termination of the license will ultimately be based on the review, approval, and confirmation that the Final Status Survey demonstrates conformance with 10 CFR Part 20, Subpart E - Radiological Criteria for License Termination, and (iv) there is reasonable assurance that the change requested can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Daniel E. Hughes, Project Manager
Research and Test Reactors Section
New, Research and Test Reactors Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-62

cc: Please see next page

DISTRIBUTION:

PUBLIC	RNRP\R&TR r/f	AAdams	PMadden	EHylton
SHolmes	CBassett	TDragoun	WEresian	PIsaac
PDoyle	DHughes	MMendonca	KWitt	PYoung
RidsNrrDrip	GHill (2) (T5-C2)			

ADAMS PACKAGE ACCESSION NO.: ML040770278

ADAMS INCOMING LETTER ACCESSION NO.: ML033460169

ADAMS RESPONSE LETTER ACCESSION NO.: ML040770298

TEMPLATE #: NRR-106

*Please see previous concurrence

OFFICE	RNRP:LA	RNRP:PM	OGC	RNRP:SC
NAME	EHylton:rdr	DHughes	SUttal	PMadden
DATE	03/ 17 /2004	03/ 17 /2004	03/ 29 /2004	03/ 30 /2004

C = COVER

E = COVER & ENCLOSURE
OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

N = NO COPY