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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION V
1990 N. CALIFORNIA BOULEVARD
SUITE 202, WALNUT CREEK PLAZA
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596

RECEIVED
JUL 15 1980
M.E. REMLEY

Energy Systems Group
D/798 Correspondence
ACTION
REPLY DUE

JUL 11 1980

RECEIVED
JUL 14 1980
Correspondence Dept.

Docket No. 50-147

Energy Systems Group
Rockwell International Corporation
8900 De Soto Avenue
Canoga Park, California 91304

Attention: Dr. M. E. Remley, Director
Health, Safety and Radiation Services

Gentlemen:

Subject: NRC Inspection of Rockwell International's FCEL Facility

This refers to the closeout inspection conducted by Mr. J. R. Curtis of this office on June 3-4, 1980 of the condition of the FCEL Facility and to the discussion of our findings held by Mr. Curtis with you and other members of the staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

The inspection was conducted to observe the condition of the facility and verify that the licensee conducted surveys and documented results as they were described in the Report of Radiation Surveys of the FCEL Reactor Facility submitted to DOR, USNRC, Attn: Wm. Gammell, (ltr M. E. Remley to Wm. Gammell, April 30, 1980; reference #80 ESG-3900). The inspection consisted of examination of records, interviews with personnel, observations by the inspector and the performance of direct radiation and contamination measurements by the inspector.

Based on the findings of this inspection including results of surveys performed on June 4, 1980, the inspector confirmed that the facility has been decontaminated and the condition is as described in the report of radiation surveys cited above. Region V is forwarding the report of this inspection to the NRC Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) for their consideration in termination of the license.

In accordance with section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed inspection report will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room. If this report contains any information that you believe to be proprietary, it is necessary that you submit a written application

REMARKS	
ANDERSON, R. W.	1411
ANDERSON, S. W.	1412
ANDERSON, T. L.	1413
ASH, E.	1424
ASH, G. W.	1425
BAILEY, J.	1401
BALDWIN, J. W.	1474
BEFLY, J. W.	1477
BENTLEY, J. W.	1422
CARDENAS, N. J.	1410
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1411
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1412
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1413
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1414
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1415
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1416
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1417
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1418
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1419
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1420
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1421
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1422
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1423
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1424
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1425
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1426
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1427
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1428
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1429
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1430
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CHAPMAN, J. W.	1432
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1433
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1434
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1435
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1436
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1437
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1438
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1439
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1440
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1441
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1442
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1443
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1444
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1445
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1446
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1447
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1448
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1449
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1450
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1451
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1452
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1453
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1454
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1455
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1456
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CHAPMAN, J. W.	1458
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1459
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1460
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1461
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1462
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1463
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1464
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1465
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1466
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1467
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1468
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1469
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1470
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1471
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1472
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1473
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1474
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1475
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1476
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1477
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1478
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1479
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1480
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1481
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1482
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1483
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1484
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1485
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1486
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1487
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1488
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1489
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1490
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1491
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1492
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1493
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1494
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1495
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1496
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1497
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1498
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1499
CHAPMAN, J. W.	1500

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JUL 11 1980

to this office, within 20 days of the date of this letter, requesting that such information be withheld from public disclosure. The application must include a full statement of the reasons why it is claimed that the information is proprietary. The application should be prepared so that any proprietary information identified is contained in an enclosure to the application, since the application without the enclosure will also be placed in the Public Document Room. If we do not hear from you in this regard within the specified period, the report will be placed in the Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be glad to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,



H. E. Book, Chief
Fuel Facility and
Materials Safety Branch

Enclosure:
IE Inspection Report
No. 80-01

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

REGION V

Report No. 80-01

Docket No. 50-147 License No. CX17 Safeguards Group _____

Licensee: Rockwell International - Energy Systems Group

8900 De Soto Avenue

Canoga Park, California 91304

Facility Name: FCEL Facility, Building 100

Inspection at: Canoga Park/Santa Susana

Inspection conducted: June 3, 4 & 11, 1980

Inspectors: J. R. Curtis July 7, 1980
J. R. Curtis, Radiation Specialist Date Signed

Date Signed

Approved by: F. Menslawski 7/11/80
F. Menslawski, Chief, Reactor Radiation Safety Date Signed
Section

Approved By: H. E. Book 7/11/80
H. E. Book, Chief, Fuel Facility and Materials Date Signed
Safety Branch

Summary:

A special close-out inspection was conducted to observe the condition of the facility and verify that the licensee conducted surveys and documented results as they were described in the Report of Radiation Surveys of the FCEL Reactor Facility submitted to DOR, USNRC, Attn: Wm Gammell, (ltr M. E. Remley to Wm. Gammell, April 30, 1980; reference #80 ESG-3900).

The inspector toured the facility, conducted meter and smear surveys of the facility and its immediate surroundings, examined licensee records, and interviewed persons who were involved in the prior use, dismantling and preparation of the facility for release for unrestricted use.

The inspection involved eleven hours onsite by one inspector.

Results: Based on the findings of this inspection including results of surveys performed on June 4, 1980, the inspector confirmed that the facility has been decontaminated and the condition is as described in the report of radiation survey cited above.

DETAILS

1. Persons Contacted

- *M. E. Remley, Director, Health Safety and Radiation Services
- *R. Eggleston, Staff Member, Health Safety and Radiation Services
- *J. Walter, Manager, Santa Susana Site
 - F. Badger, Health Physicist
 - R. Mc Curnin, Manager, Radioactive Materials Disposal Facility
 - J. Harris, Staff Member, Radioactive Materials Disposal Facility

*Indicates presence at the exit interview.

2. The Facility (Building 100, Santa Susana Site)

The building that housed the FCEL is a composite structure approximately 75' X 100', consisting of some rooms of standard industrial building construction and a vault and high bay area with overhead crane which are of thick-walled reinforced concrete construction.

The split table critical assembly machine and its supporting hardware was located in the high bay area, the fuel and other forms of Special Nuclear Material (SNM) were stored in the vault. The other rooms were used for shops, offices, laboratory, health physics support operations and the control room for the critical assembly machine.

A special ventilation system with filtered exhaust was provided for the high bay area, the vault and laboratory areas where airborne radioactivity might be generated. A "hot" drain system, with holdup tanks in a pit adjacent to the facility, was provided for selected support rooms.

3. Current Status of the Facility

Operations in which the fueled critical assembly machine was used were terminated in 1974. The fuel was removed and a dismantling plan for the machine was generated by the licensee and submitted to NRC for approval in July 1974. A dismantling order was transmitted to the licensee in November 1974. In the period between November 1974 and the present, decontamination and dismantling operations proceeded in stages. The facility was carried in a long term shut-down status while the licensee was involved in negotiations to sell or otherwise dispose of the critical assembly machine and support hardware. During this period some of the areas within the facility, principally the office and control room areas and including a portion of the high bay, were used for storage and electronic instrument maintenance and calibration projects.

In the recent past the licensee elected to completely dismantle and remove the remaining portions of the critical assembly machine and supporting hardware, including possibly contaminated hoods, ductwork and the holdup tanks, valving, and pumps in the "hot" drain system. This equipment was properly packaged and transported to the licensee's Radioactive Materials Disposal Facility. The inspector visited this facility, observed the present location and status of the equipment and discussed proposed disposition plans with licensee representatives. Selected items will be decontaminated and released to the corporate salvage yard for ultimate disposal; the remaining equipment including the split table and the hold-up tanks will be properly packaged for solid radioactive waste disposal thru the licensee's normal radioactive waste disposal channels. All portions of the FCEL facility, other than rooms 103 thru 109, which were used for offices, and the control room were cleared, cleaned and the facility was surveyed for contamination as described in sections 2.0 and 3.0 of the licensees' report (ltr Remley to Gammell April 30, 1980, #80 ESG-3900).

4. Radiation Surveys

The inspector toured the site with the licensee health physics representative who performed the licensees radiation survey, discussed techniques and examined survey records, and then conducted a radiation level and contamination survey. The instruments used for the radiation survey made by the licensee are listed in Attachment #1, the NRC instruments used in the June 4th survey were:

NMC P-55 Gas Proportional Counter I.D. Number 00393
Determination of alpha and beta counting efficiency performed 6/11/80
Background 6/11/80 30 CPM

Eberline E520 Geiger Counter I.D. Number 1939
with HP260 Probe (10% efficient for beta particles of Co-60 energy)
Calibrated 5/14/80
Ambient Background 6/4/80.....10-20 CPM

Eberline PRM-7 MICRO R/hr METER I.D. Number 247
with Na I crystal detector
Calibrated 2/4/80 with NBS traceable Cs 137 gamma source
Ambient Background level 6/4/80.....5-15 uR/hr

The records of the licensee surveys were examined and the results recorded were consistent with those reported in sections 3.0 and 4.0 of the licensees report. Survey instruments and techniques used were consistent with currently accepted standards and, based on discussion with the person who conducted the survey, were thorough and comprehensive.

Radiation and contamination level surveys were conducted during this inspection. The surveys consisted of portable survey instrument (E520 and PRM-7) measurements performed throughout the facility and a series of surface and near surface measurements at selected locations in the vault, high bay, and support facility. Radiation levels measured at or within three inches of the floor and wall surfaces of the high bay, vault and adjacent work rooms were in the range of 5 to 50 uR/hr (.005 to .050 mR/hr), with the maximum reading detected in a localized area in the pit below the location of the split table when it was in place. Levels measured at three feet from the floor and wall surfaces did not exceed the ambient background range of 5 to 15 uR/hr. Surface contamination measurements made using a thin window "pancake" type GM detector were in the range of 10 to 30 counts per minute (CPM). No levels exceeding two times the ambient background range of 10 to 20 CPM were observed. No removable surface contamination was detected in seventeen swipes taken at selected locations in the high bay, vault and adjacent work rooms. (See Attachment #2 for locations)

A soil sample was taken from a natural drainage path located approximately sixty feet north west of the facility. A liquid sample of water that had been run through pipes in the "hot" drain system was taken from the sump in the pit that previously housed the hold-up tanks from that system. No significant radioactivity was detected in a laboratory analysis of these samples using a gamma spectroscopy system with a Lithium drifted Germanium detector.

The review of records of radiation surveys performed by the licensee and the results of surveys performed by the inspector confirm the status of the facility as described in the licensee's report.

5. Exit Interview

An exit interview with licensee representatives was held at the close of the inspection. The inspector discussed the findings of the inspection and indicated that based on the surveys performed and on the conditions observed, his report would confirm that the licensee had cleaned and otherwise prepared the FCEL facility (Building 100) as described in its report and the conditions found met the guidelines of Regulatory Guide 1.86, Termination of Operating Licenses for Nuclear Reactors.

ATTACHMENTS:
As Stated

LICENSEE
INSTRUMENTATION USED IN
RADIATION SURVEY OF BUILDING 100

Date of Survey: May 2, 1980

Instruments used to survey Bldg. 100:

N.M.C. Autocounting System	Property No. 341531
Background 25	Calibrated February 8, 1980
Efficiency factor: 2.3 Beta/Gamma	
3.8 Alpha	

PUG 1AB Thin Window Probe	Property No. 341850
	Calibrated March 10, 1980

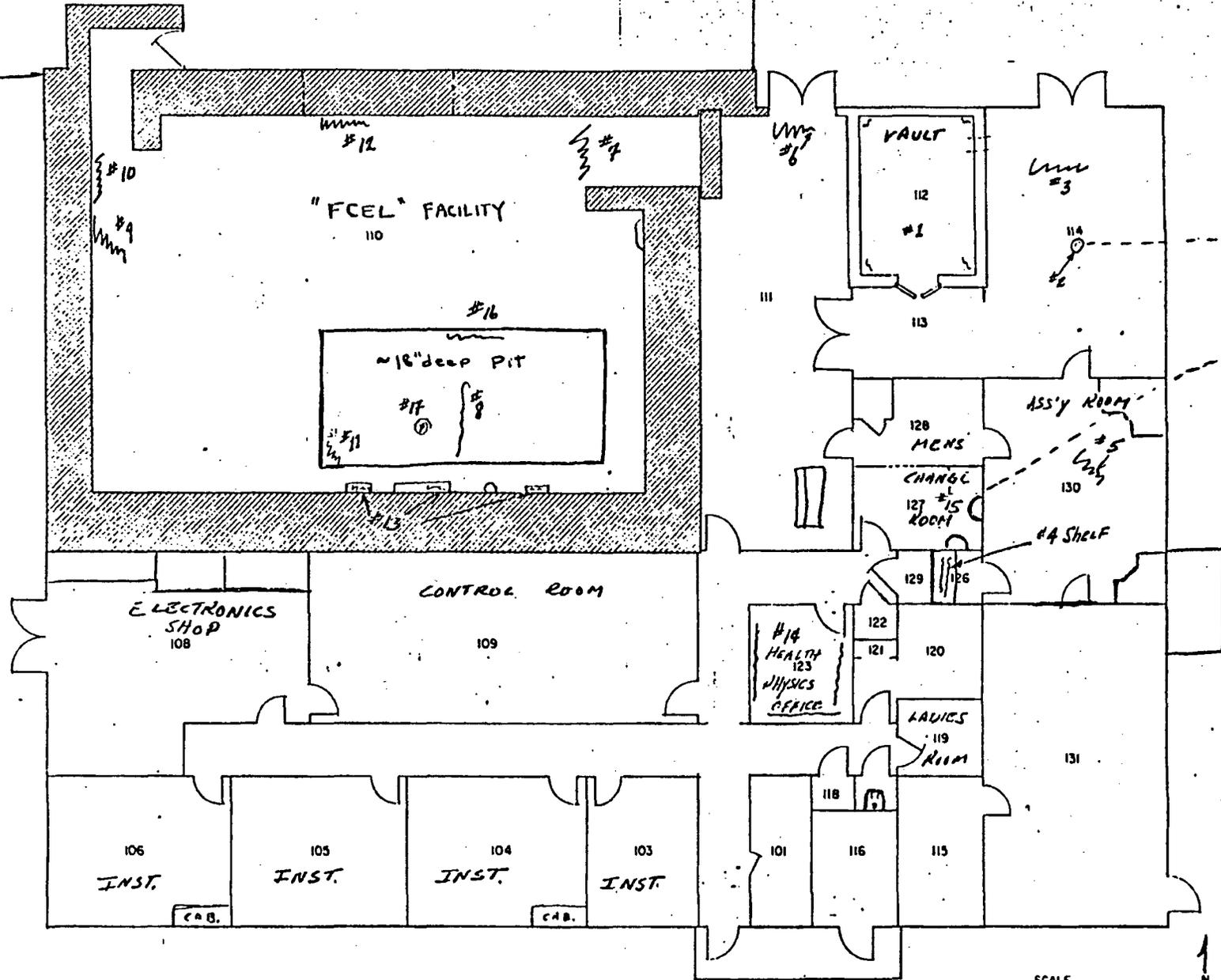
Ludlum Model 12 Alpha Meter	Property No. 327793
with Model 43-5 Scintillation	Calibrated April 7, 1980
Probe	

Ludlum Micro "R" Meter	Property No. 341865
	Calibrated March 2, 1980

Attachment 2

PREVIOUS DRAINAGE SURFACE WATER
CONCRETE SLAB (PAD)

DRAINAGE SURFACE WATER



TO HOLDUP AN PIT.

ROOM AND AREA NUMBERS PLAN SANTA SUSANA BUILDING 103

SMEAR LOCATIONS 6/6/80 SURVEY
J.R. CURTIS



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