

The Ohio State University Nuclear Reactor Laboratory

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08-Sep-2010

Document Control Desk U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission One White Flint North 11555 Rockville Pike Rockville, MD 20852-2738

SUBJECT: Annual Report for The Ohio State University Research Reactor, License R-75, Docket 50-150

Please find enclosed the annual report for The Ohio State University Research Reactor, Docket No. 50-150. This report is being submitted as required by our Technical Specifications, Section 6.6.1. If you have questions on the content of this report, please contact Mr. Andrew Kauffman, Associate Director of the Nuclear Reactor Laboratory, at 614-688-8220.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on 08-Sep-2010.

Sincerely,

5 5 Blue

Thomas Blue, Director OSU Nuclear Reactor Lab The Ohio State University (License R-75, Docket 50-150)

 c: Gregory N. Washington, Dean, OSU College of Engineering Randolph L. Moses, Associate Dean for Research, OSU College of Engineering Geoff Wertz, US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
A. Kauffman, OSU Nuclear Reactor Lab

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH REACTOR

ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2009/2010

SEPTEMBER 2010

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Introduction

As stated in The Ohio State University Research Reactor (OSURR) Technical Specifications Section 6.6.1, *Operating Reports*, an annual report shall be made to the NRC by September 30 of each year. This report is to include the following seven information items:

- 1. A narrative summary of operating experience (including experiments performed) and of changes in facility design, performance characteristics, and operating procedures related to reactor safety occurring during the reporting period
- 2. A tabulation showing the energy generated by the reactor (in kilowatt hours) and the number of hours the reactor was in use
- 3. The results of safety related maintenance and inspections and the reasons for corrective maintenance of safety-related items
- 4. A table of unscheduled shutdowns and inadvertent scrams, including their reasons and the corrective actions taken
- 5. A summary of the safety analyses performed in connection with changes to the facility or procedures, which affect reactor safety, and performance of tests or experiments carried out under the conditions of 10 CFR 50.59
- 6. A summary of the nature and amount of radioactive gaseous, liquids, and solid effluents released or discharged to the environs beyond the effective control of the licensee as measured or calculated at or prior to the point of such release or discharge
- 7. A summary of radiation exposures received by facility personnel and visitors, including the dates and times of significant exposures

These seven information items are discussed below for the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010, except as noted for exposure records.

1. Summary of Operating Experience and Changes

1.A. Experiments Performed

The OSURR engages in a wide range of research endeavors, including neutron activation analysis (NAA), radiation-damage studies, neutron and radiation sensitive detector development, isotope production, and biomedical experiments. Much of the NAA work performed at the OSURR is for geological and material science samples, but NAA is used for other purposes, such as industrial and biological. Most radiation-damage studies performed at the OSURR are for electronic components, but studies have been performed for other materials, including fiber-optic components. The OSURR has been involved in the development of a number of potential types of neutron and radiation detectors, including fiber-optic based systems, and it regularly tests fission chambers for use in commercial power reactors by characterizing their response to known neutron flux. Isotope production has typically been performed for medical research, but sources have been created for other uses, including testing of radiation-sensitive detectors. Biological sample irradiations performed at the OSURR have been for boron neutron capture therapy (BNCT) studies. In addition, other experiments are performed at the OSURR, such as reactivity worth measurements, spectrum characterizations using flux-wire activation and analysis, and physics experiments such as neutron irradiation of fullerenes.

The OSURR also provides a variety of instructional services ranging from general tours to individual and group laboratory sessions and research projects structured to student and faculty interests. Nuclear engineering and physics classes throughout Ohio have utilized the OSURR for the following basic experiments:

- a. approach to critical (using banked control rods rather than fuel loading)
- b. control rod calibration by rod drop, positive period, and subcritical multiplication
- c. measurement of the reactor transfer function by noise analysis
- d. temperature coefficient measurements
- e. radiological surveys

When the OSURR is used to introduce students, faculty or other experimenters to nuclear research, the following are typically done:

- a. discuss nuclear reactions and radiological safety
- b. operate the reactor at 10kW-100kW
- c. have the individuals observe control room operations
- d. complete a tour and demonstrate irradiation techniques

Neutron activation analysis experiments are performed for students ranging from high school to graduate school.

The reactor utilization for July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 is summarized in the following reports. Please note that the utilization hours listed below only reflect actual reactor operating time. The list does not include hours spent on tasks supporting this reactor utilization.

The Ohio State University Nuclear Reactor Lab Reactor Utilization Report: July 1 - December 31, 2009

User, Affiliation	Description	Hours ¹
AFIT	Neutron spectrum in 7" tube	0.0
AFIT	Radiation effects on semiconductor devices	14.1
Battelle (Friedman)	Test setup dosimetry	0.7
Bowser-Morner	NAA of limestone	1.2
GE Reuter-Stokes	Éission chamber testing	31.6
Luna Innovations	Optical sensor evaluation	29.2
Miami U Physics (Jaeger)	Hf production	1.0
NDSU (Lepper)	NAA of geology samples	2.5
OSU Mat. Sci. (Buchheit)	NAA of corrosion products	6.6
OSU Mat. Sci. (Flores)	Rad effects on metallic glass	1.0
OSU Mat. Sci. (Sumption)	Rad effects on MgB2	1.8
OSU NE	Classes and labs (NE 505, 606)	24.8
OSU NE (Garcia, Blue)	Rad effects testing of SiC	0.0
OSU NRL	Calibrations, inspections, requal	8.2
OSU Physics (Parks)	Rad effects on GMR samples	6.6
Schafer	Bucky balls irradiation	2.6
U Cincinnati (Glover)	Silica discs	0.0
U Cincinnati (Spitz)	NAA	5.8
U Cincinnati (Spitz)	Spectrum measurement of BP1 sample holder	1.0
Various	Tours (excluding NE 505)	28.6

Total: 167.3

Notes:

- 1. The utilization hours listed above reflect actual reactor operating time. The list does not include hours spent on tasks supporting this reactor utilization (pre-start and post-shutdown checkout, experiment setup, etc.).
- 2. Does not include reactor utilization time when run as a secondary user concurrent with a primary user

The Ohio State University Nuclear Reactor Lab Reactor Utilization Report: January 1 - June 30, 2010

User, Affiliation Description		Hours ¹	
AFIT	NAA of filter papers	2.8	
AFIT class	Approach to critical lab experiment	2.2	
Cao (OSU NE)	Neutron spectrum in BP#2	1.4	
Carroll (OSU Physics)	Rad effects on GMR materials	3.4	
Friedman (Battelle)	Device irradiation	0.6	
GE Reuter-Stokes	Fission chamber testing	37.1	
Glover (UC)	Silica discs	0.0	
Hawn (OSU NE)	NAA of components for experiment test fixture	4.4	
Heremans (OSU ME)	NAA	0.2	
Luna Innovations	Optical sensor evaluation	38.9	
NRL	NAA demo for Kamatics, Inc.	0.6	
NRL	Ops for testing new equipment, core change, startup channel mapping	6.3	
NRL	Neutron transmission testing feasibility	3.7	
OSU Mat. Sci. Eng.	Rad effect on materials	0.0	
OSU NE	Classes and labs (NE 505, 742, 744, 793)		
Spitz (UC)	NAA		
Tayloe (OSU NE)	NAA		
Various	Tours(excluding NE 505)		
	Total:	192.8	

Total: 192.8

Notes:

- 1. The utilization hours listed above reflect actual reactor operating time. The list does not include hours spent on tasks supporting this reactor utilization (pre-start and post-shutdown checkout, experiment setup, etc.).
- 2. Does not include reactor utilization time when run as a secondary user concurrent with a primary user

1.B. Changes in Facility Design

There were no facility design changes that required a change to the Technical Specifications. 10CFR50.59 changes are described in Section 5.A of this report.

1.C. Changes in Performance Characteristics

There have been no changes in performance characteristics related to reactor safety in the last year.

1.D. Changes in Operating Procedures

There were no changes in operating procedures related to reactor safety in the last year. 10CFR50.59 changes are described in Section 5.B of this report.

2. Energy Generated and Hours of Use

Kilowatt-Hours of Operation: 48,492.1 kW-hr

Hours of Utilization: 360.1 hr

3. Safety Related Maintenance

None.

4. Unscheduled Shutdowns

From July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 there were 5 unplanned shutdowns. These are summarized below.

Reason		Corrective Action
Period Safety scram from noise on log channel	(3)	None during this time period
System noise from turning on pumps	(1)	None during this time period
Operator error. Flipped wrong switch during intentional rod drop	(1)	None during this time period

5. Changes in Facility and Procedures in Accordance with 10CFR50.59

5.A. Facility Modifications

During the period July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, two OSURR Modification Requests were completed.

- a) Replacement of log-channel recorder
- b) Installation of "WIF" in-core wet tube irradiation facility

5.B. Procedure changes

The following is a list of procedure changes made under 10CFR50.59 from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 in accordance with Administrative Procedure AP-05, entitled Format for Writing, Revising, and Approving Procedures.

Procedure Number	Procedure Title	Revision Date
AP-08	NRL Audit	11/06/2009
AP-10	Console Operating Experience Record	10/20/2009
EP-01	Emergency Procedures	10/06/2009

6. Radioactive Effluents

6.A. Gaseous Effluent

The only gaseous effluent measured is the release of Ar-41. For the period July 1 - Dec. 31, 2009, Ar-41 releases measured 1.47 % of the annual average concentration limit. From Jan. 1 - June 30, 2010, releases measured 0.81 % of the annual average concentration limit. In accordance with the requirements of 10CFR20.1101(d), the COMPLY code was run using the total Ar-41 release for the period July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010 of 198 mCi. Using level 2 in the code, the effective dose equivalent rate at the facility fence was computed to be 0.1 mrem/yr. This is well below the 10 mrem/yr constraint specified in the regulation.

6.B. Liquid Releases

Hot sink releases are recorded and reported through the OSU Office of Radiation Safety. No releases were made to the sanitary sewer system during the period July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010.

6.C. Solid Releases

No releases of solid radioactive material were made to the uncontrolled environment.

7. Radiation Exposures

Since the firm that maintains records for The Ohio State University keeps a year-to-date record, it is simpler to report radiation exposure records by the nearest completed calendar year. Therefore dosimetry badge exposures in this report are for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009. Nine individuals were monitored as radiation workers during this period, and the measured dose equivalent values are tabulated below in mrem.

Individual	Dose Equivalent (mrem)			
	DDE	LDE	SDE, WB	SDE, ME
Visitors	0	0	0	N/A
Staff member 1	106	184	304	620
Staff member 2	38	39	41	100
Staff member 3	157	201	254	600
Staff member 4	· 95	101	124	180
Staff member 5	114	. 133	164	1190
Staff member 6	37	37	43	-
Student worker 1	1	2	6	0
Student worker 2	99	115	155	430
Student worker 3	42	46	55	90

7/19/2010 12:47

COMPLY: V1.6.

40 CFR Part 61 National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants

REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH

THE CLEAN AIR ACT LIMITS FOR RADIONUCLIDE EMISSIONS

FROM THE COMPLY CODE - V1.6.

Prepared by:

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Andrew Kauffman 614-688-8220

Prepared for:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Radiation and Indoor Air Washington, DC 20460

7/19/2010 12:47

COMPLY: V1.6.

NRL_2010

SCREENING LEVEL 2

DATA ENTERED:

	Release Rate
Nuclide	(curies/YEAR)
AR-41	1.980E-01

Release height 10 meters. Building height 11 meters. The source and receptor are not on the same building. Distance from the source to the receptor is 15 meters. Building width 25 meters. Default mean wind speed used (2.0 m/sec).

NOTES:

Input parameters outside the "normal" range:

None.

RESULTS:

Effective dose equivalent: 0.1 mrem/yr.

*** Comply at level 2.

This facility is in COMPLIANCE.

It may or may not be EXEMPT from reporting to the EPA.

You may contact your regional EPA office for more information.

******** END OF COMPLIANCE REPORT *********