



May 27, 2016

ATTN: Document Control Desk  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Response to NRC Generic Letter 2016-01: Monitoring of Neutron-Absorbing Materials in Spent Fuel Pools for the Missouri S&T Reactor Facility, R-79, Docket 50-123.

NRC:

The Missouri University of Science & Technology Research Reactor does not have neutron absorbing materials in the fuel storage pool (FSP). Fuel elements are positioned in two racks each made of 6061 T6 Aluminum. Each rack can hold one row of fifteen fuel elements with a distance of five inches between elements. The entire fuel inventory can be contained in the FSP.

The reactor core has the control rods maintaining a subcritical reactor while the reactor is shutdown and not being used. During the annual control rod inspection 50% of the reactor core's critical mass is moved to the FSP. One control rod is removed from the core, inspected and reinstalled into the reactor core prior to the removal and inspection of the next control rod. All fuel movements during this process are approved by the reactor manager and supervised by a Senior Reactor Operator.

Please contact me at 573-341-4384 or [webonzer@mst.edu](mailto:webonzer@mst.edu) if you have questions regarding this information.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

*William Bonzer*

Executed on *May 27, 2016*

Sincerely,

*William Bonzer*

William Bonzer  
Missouri S&T Reactor Manager  
License R-79  
Docket 50-123

*A020  
NRR*