

April 18, 2017

Mr. Stephen I. Miller
Reactor Facility Director
Armed Forces Radiobiology
Research Institute
8901 Wisconsin Avenue
Bethesda, MD 20889-5603

SUBJECT: ARMED FORCES RADIOBIOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE - NON-POWER REACTOR CLOSEOUT OF GENERIC LETTER 2016-01, "MONITORING OF NEUTRON-ABSORBING MATERIALS IN SPENT FUEL POOLS," FOR THE ARMED FORCES RADIOBIOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE RESEARCH REACTOR, DOCKET NO. 50-170 (CAC NO. A11010)

On April 7, 2016, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 2016-01, "Monitoring of Neutron-Absorbing Materials in Spent Fuel Pools" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16097A169), to address the degradation of neutron-absorbing materials (NAM) in wet storage systems for reactor fuel at power and non-power reactors.

For the non-power reactors, GL 2016-01 requested that licensees provide facility-specific information related to the use of NAM. This information was needed by the NRC staff to verify continued compliance through licensee implementation of effective methods for monitoring of reactor fuel in wet storage so as to detect and mitigate any degradation or deformation of NAM when credited in the facility licensing or design basis for criticality control of fuel in wet storage.

On November 2, 2016, the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute submitted a response to GL 2016-01 (ADAMS Accession No. ML16319A370) for the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute Research Reactor. The NRC staff conducted a review of your response to GL 2016-01 and determined that your facility does not use NAM in wet fuel storage. Based upon the information you submitted in response to GL 2016-01 and the results of the NRC staff review, the NRC staff has determined that the submission addresses the information requested in GL 2016-01. No further information or action is requested regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Alexander Adams Jr., Chief
Research and Test Reactors Licensing Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

Armed Forces Radiobiology Research

Docket No. 50-170

cc:

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML17067A278; *concurred via email

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