

March 23, 2017

Paul J. O'Connor, Ph.D.
Facility Director
Dow Chemical TRIGA Research Reactor
Dow Chemical Company
Building 1602
Midland, MI 48674

SUBJECT: DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY - NON-POWER REACTOR CLOSEOUT OF
GENERIC LETTER 2016-01, "MONITORING OF NEUTRON-ABSORBING
MATERIALS IN SPENT FUEL POOLS," FOR THE DOW TRIGA RESEARCH
REACTOR, DOCKET NO. 50-264 (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 June 13, 2016, Dow Chemical Company submitted a response to GL 2016-01 (ADAMS Accession No. ML16166A415) for the Dow TRIGA 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

Dow Chemical

Docket No. 50-264

cc:

Office of the Mayor
333 West Ellsworth
Midland, MI 48640

Office of the Governor
Room 1 – Capitol Building
Lansing, MI 48913

Mr. Scott Bemis, Chair
Radiation Safety Committee
The Dow Chemical Company
Environmental Health and
Safety Responsible Care Leader
1790 Building
Midland, MI 48674

Dr. Wayde Konze
Global Research and Development
Director for Analytical Sciences
Chair, Reactor Operations Committee
The Dow Chemical Company
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Test, Research and Training
Reactor Newsletter
P.O. Box 118300
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611

Radiological Protection Section
Office of Waste Management
and Radiological Protection
Michigan Department
of Environmental Quality
525 West Allegan Street
P.O. Box 30473
Lansing, MI 48909-7973

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML17067A279; *concurred via email

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