

MAY 2 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: W. T. Crow, Section Leader
 Uranium Process Licensing Section
 Uranium Fuel Licensing Branch

FROM: Norman Ketzlach
 Uranium Fuel Licensing Branch

SUBJECT: TRIP REPORT

Purpose

Visit licensee's facility to discuss the SNM-23 license renewal application of Texas Instruments, Inc. (TI) and participate with IE on the inspection of the facility.

Place and Date

TI facility in Attleboro, Massachusetts, April 21-25, 1980.

Attendees

Texas Instruments, Inc. --

- F. L. Sherman, Manager, HFIR Project
- R. J. Schwensfeir, Jr., Manager, Nuclear Safety
- J. T. Thomas, Nuclear Criticality Safety Consultant

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission --

- N. Ketzlach, NMSS
- W. W. Kinney, IE Region I

Discussion

Discussions were held on the NRC preliminary comments related to the TI renewal application. TI personnel have an understanding how they will develop the responses to the NRC comments. A major revision is required to the nuclear criticality safety limits and their justification. Modifications to their

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radiation safety program and inspection and audit programs associated with both radiological and nuclear criticality safety are required.

There has been a major change in the TI organization related to their SNM license since the renewal application was submitted. HFIR manufacturing personnel now report to a manufacturing superintendent instead of to the Manager, HFIR Project. Both the HFIR Project Manager and the Manufacturing Superintendent are on the same level in the organization. A new Manager, Nuclear Safety (NS) and Nuclear Materials (NM) has been appointed and has been on board approximately six months. The former Manager, NS and NM, and the Health Physics Officer have left TI. The latter has not yet been replaced. Because of their staffing and scheduling situation, TI management stated they could not meet the "Gold Book" schedule of June 20, 1980, but agreed to submit their response before August 22, 1980.

N. Ketzlach participated with W. W. Kinney on his routine inspection of the TI facility and operations related to the SNM-23 license. The inspection included compliance with IE Bulletin No. 79-19, "Packaging of Low-Level Waste for Transport and Burial," dated August 10, 1979, the TI Organization, the Nuclear Criticality Safety Program, and the internal review and audit programs for both nuclear criticality and radiation safety. W. Kinney will issue a separate report on the inspection.

Prior to departure, N. Ketzlach and W. W. Kinney met with F. L. Sherman, R. J. Schwensfeir, Jr. and W. Goetz, Manufacturing Manager, Metal Systems Department. The latter is the supervisor of the HFIR Project Manager and the Manufacturing superintendent. The meeting summary was discussed

Conclusions

The site visit, participation in an IE inspection of the facility, and discussion of the NRC preliminary comments on the SNM license renewal application gave the NRC a better understanding of current operations at TI and should, in the long run, expedite the review of the renewal application. TI should be able to meet their agreed-to response date to the NRC comments.

Original Signed by:

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