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U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT REGION IV

IE Inspection Report No. 50-59/80-01

Docket No. 50-59

Licensee: Texas A&M University (TAMU)

License No. R-23

College Station, Texas

Category H

Facility: AGN-201M Reactor (5 watts)

Inspection Conducted: March 5-6, 1980

Inspector:

G. L. Constable, Reactor Inspector

S. R. Dean, Reactor Inspector

Accompanying

Personnel:

J. W. Craig, Reactor Engineer

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Approved by: Ilm I Malon

en L. Madsen, Chief, Reactor Operations and

Nuclear Support Branch

Inspection Summary

Inspection on March 5-6, 1980 (Report No. 50-59/80-01)

Areas Inspected: Routine, unannounced inspection of the licensee's organization; reactor logs and records; audits; requalification training; procedures; experiments; environmental surveillance; emergency planning; and radiation control. The inspection involved fifteen (15) on site hours by three (3) NRC inspector.

Results: No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

DETAILS

1. Persons Contacted

*Dr. R. R. Berg, Office of University Research

*Dr. R. D. Neff, University Radiation Safety Officer (RSO)

*Mr. J. B. Zgliczynski, Reactor Supervisor and Senior Reactor Operator

*Denotes individuals present during exit interview.

Scope of Inspection

The purpose of this inspection was to review the operating history of the reactor for the period January 1979 through March 1980 and to observe ongoing operations.

3. Organization

The inspectors reviewed the operations and administrative organization associated with the reactor to determine compliance with Technical Specification 6.0. Such items as status of licensed operators, membership and meetings of the Reactor Safety Board, and supervision of the reactor facility were examined.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

4. Operations and Maintenance Logs

The inspectors examined operations and maintenance logs and records for the period January 1979 through March 1980. All maintenance and operations activities appear to have been conducted in a manner consistent with the Technical Specifications and administrative procedures.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

5. Internal Audit and Review

The records of audits and reviews performed by the licensee were examined. The inspectors verified that the Reactor Safety Board audited facility activities as required by the Technical Specifications 6.4.3.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

6. Requalification Training

The inspectors reviewed the requalification training program to determine compliance with the program as accepted on June 1, 1977.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

7. Procedures

The inspectors reviewed operating procedures to determine compliance with Technical Specification requirements.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted. However, during the review of "Regulating and Operating Procedure Pertaining to Texas A&M University AGN-201M Training Reactor Facility" the inspectors did not find administrative documentation to identify that this procedure had been reviewed and approved by the Reactor Safety Board prior to implementation June 25, 1975. This item was discussed with the licensee representatives who indicated that the matter would be looked at by their staff. This item was identified as an unresolved item (URI 8001-1) for review in a future inspection. No further items in this area were identified.

8. Experiments

The inspectors observed a reactor experiment in progress and reviewed the licensee's reactor experiment program to determine compliance with Technical Specifications 6.7. The licensee's records indicated that each experiment placed in the reactor had received prior review and approval.

No items of noncompliance or deviation were noted.

9. Facility Tour

The inspectors toured the reactor facility on March 5, 1980. The following items were examined.

- . housekeeping
- . availability of procedures
- . posting per 10 CFR 19 and 20
- access control

- personnel monitoring
- availability of radiation survey meters

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

8. Reactor Operation

The inspectors observed the operation of the reactor during the conduction of two laboratory experiments. This included the handling of irradiated samples, prereactor startup checkout, reactor startup, reactor operations at five (5) watts, and reactor shutdown.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

9. Radiation Control

The inspectors reviewed the licensee radiation control program to determine compliance with NRC requirements. The inspectors observed routine radiation controls that were in effect for the conduct of a reactor experiment.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

Emergency Planning

The facility emergency procedures are contained in the "Texas A&M University AGN-201M, Training Reactor Facility Emergency Plan." It was noted by the inspectors that the plan had been reviewed within the previous year by the Nuclear Engineering Department Head and the Reactor Safety Board. In addition, the plan had been tested as required. The inspectors verified that a current emergency phone listing was posted.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

11. Environmental Protection

The inspectors reviewed the licensee's environmental protection program. There are no specific requirements for the licensee to maintain an environmental surveillance program. The licensee stated that no liquid releases have been made since the previous inspection.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

12. Reports and Notifications

The inspector reviewed reports and notifications required by the License Conditions and Technical Specifications.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

13. Unresolved Item

Unresolved items are matters about which more information is required to ascertain whether they are acceptable, items of noncompliance or deviations the following unresolved item was reviewed during this inspection.

8001-1 Procedure Review and Approval, paragraph 7.

14. Exit Interview

At the conclusion of the inspection on March 6, 1980, the inspection findings were discussed with the individuals listed in paragraph 1.