

August 29, 1980

Docket 50-57

Mr. James R. Miller
Chief of Standards and Special Projects Branch
Division of Licensing
Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Miller:

As per my phone conversation with Mr. Bob Carter on 8/27/80, I am forwarding to you this letter, in order to describe the current status of our application for renewal of reactor operating license R-77. I apologize that no information has been transmitted to date. However, it was our understanding as a result of conversations with Mr. Steve Ramos, that the application should be submitted as one lump package. Having clarified this aspect with Mr. Carter, it is now our intention to submit portions of the application as they are completed.

We have currently completed our updated Hazard Summary Report, Operator Requalification Program, and Physical Security Plan. We anticipate completion of appropriate Financial Statements next week. These documents will be forwarded to the University Central Duplicating Department as soon as possible. Since the University Fall semester begins September 2, it may take two or three weeks to obtain the necessary copies. I will see that they are forwarded to your department as soon as we get them.

New Technical Specifications are nearing completion. We are at this time investigating improved, updated analyses to support requested Limiting Conditions of Operation, and Safety System Settings. We are also examining the history of our effluent releases and monitoring program. We hope to establish new release level limits and alarm set points to be consistent with ALARA criteria.

We are also in the process of developing a comprehensive Emergency Plan. I am sure that you realize the guidelines and criteria for such a plan have been somewhat fluid since the accident at IMI. We have therefore expended considerable effort towards developing a viable plan. We have, for instance, initiated a Radiological Safety Training Program for the Buffalo Fire Department. We have also been coordinating our efforts with the Buffalo and Trie County Disaster Preparedness Departments, the New York State Department of Health, University Health Services, and the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Last October we held our first Emergency Medical Drill. This involved the aforementioned agencies, as well as police and ambulance services, and a first aid simulation team. We intend to repeat the exercise in early November. We hope to finalize our emergency plan after reviewing and incorporating lessons learned from this drill.

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A new Accountability Manual has been drafted, and transmitted to the NRC Safeguards Division for review.

In summary, while no information has been submitted to your department to date, I feel we have made considerable progress towards completing the application. If you require further information at this time, please let me know.

Yours truly,

Louis G. Henry Assistant Director

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