

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

REGION V

Report No. 50-375/80-03
Docket No. 50-375 License No. R-118 Safeguards Group _____
Licensee: Rockwell International Corporation
8900 DeSoto Avenue
Canoga Park, California
Facility Name: L-85 Research Reactor
Inspection at: Canoga Park, California
Inspection conducted: September 24-25, 1980
Inspectors: J. R. Curtis 10/15/80
J. Richard Curtis, Radiation Specialist Date Signed
F. Menslowski 10/15/80
F. Menslowski, Chief, RX Radiation Safety Section Date Signed
Approved By: H. E. Book 10/15/80
H. E. Book, Chief, Fuel Facility and Materials Date Signed
Safety Branch

Summary:

Inspection on September 24-25, 1980, Report No. 50-375/80-03

Areas Inspected: A special inspection of the L-85 Research Reactor was conducted to establish the present physical status of the facility and determine the licensee's plans and timetable related to their dismantling plan for the reactor. The inspection involved 7 inspection hours by one radiation specialist inspector.

Results: No items of noncompliance were identified in the area inspected.

DETAILS

1. Persons Contacted

*Dr. M. Remley, Rockwell (ESG), Health and Safety Manager
*Mr. J. Walter, Rockwell, Santa Susana Site Manager
Mr. V. Swanson, L-85 Senior Operator Facility Manager
Mr. R. Owen, Santa Susana Site Health Physics Staff

*Indicates presence at the exit interview.

2. Status of the L-85 Reactor Facility

The status of the L-85 Reactor Facility was determined to be as described in the following paragraphs.

An internal, detailed working procedure for dismantling and decontaminating the L-85 Reactor Facility has been generated and approved by the licensee organization. A separate plan for the defueling operation has been drafted and is awaiting information on available approved containers for the collection and transport of the fuel.

The licensee representative and Senior Reactor Operator for the L-85 described the status and most recent operations at the facility. Periodic surveillance tests of instrumentation and control rod function have been performed to meet technical specification requirements.

Dismantling and removal of some peripheral equipment used for neutron radiography operations has taken place. This operation was covered by a member of the Health Physics staff. Items removed were surveyed for residual activity prior to release. Items with measureable activity have been retained in the controlled area awaiting appropriate disposal.

The licensee is maintaining general surveillance of the facility on a regular basis. Radiological monitoring instrumentation is kept operational. One operating RAM station has a remote readout and alarm at the Rockwell Site Control Center. A constant air monitor is on and the particulate filter is exchanged and counted bi-weekly. Film badges, located in and around the facility for area monitoring during normal reactor operation, have been retained and are changed quarterly. A routine radiological survey, consisting of swipes and survey meter readings at sixty locations, is being conducted quarterly. No unusual radiation or activity levels have been detected in these surveys.

The next step in the proposed plan for decommissioning will be the defueling operation, awaiting the designation and procurement of approved containers for the storage and transport of the fuel upon removal from the reactor.

No items of noncompliance were identified.

3. Exit Interview

At the close of the inspection the inspector met with licensee management representatives and reviewed the scope and findings of the special inspection.

No items of noncompliance were identified.