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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555

Reference: Oregon State University TRIGA Reactor (OSTR),
Docket No. 50-243, License No. R-106

Subject: Request for Amendment of OSTR Technical Specifications

Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to request several amendments to the OSTR Technical Specifications. The proposed amendments are discussed in detail below.

Proposed Amendment of Technical Specification 3.6.1

Correct the spelling/typographical error of the word 'operator' in the objective section of this specification. This is just a correction and does not actually change the specification.

Proposed Amendment of Technical Specification 4.3.1.e

Replace this specification with the following:

- e. "A test pulse shall be performed prior to routine operational pulsing when a non-pulsing interval of six months or more has elapsed. Fuel temperature measurements and peak power levels from the test pulse will be compared with those of previous pulses of the same reactivity value."

Replace the last sentence of the bases for this specification with the following:

"The test pulse is performed prior to routine pulsing to provide assurance that pulsing characteristics of the reactor have not significantly changed."

The OSTR has not been pulsed frequently in recent years. Performing a test pulse every six months does not provide additional useful information with respect to fuel or

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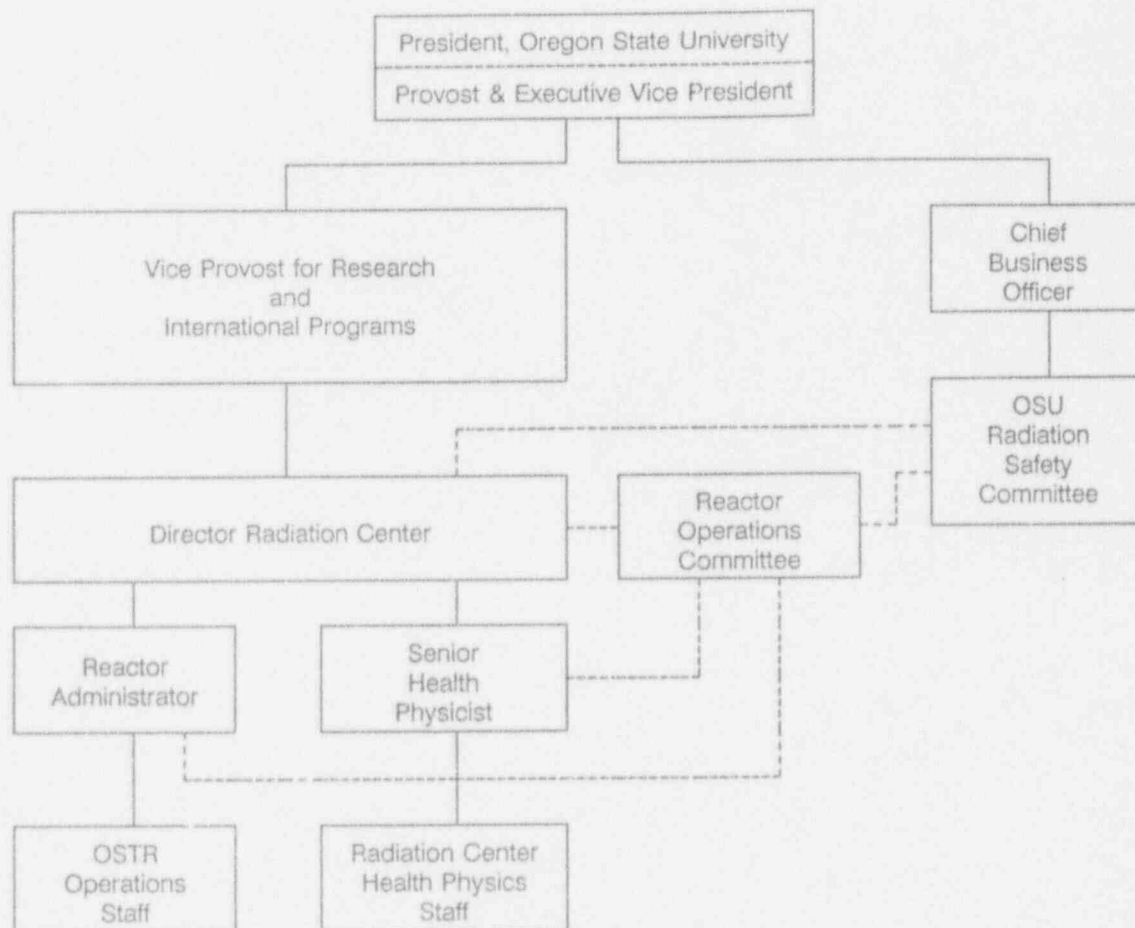
core characteristics beyond that gained in normal steady state operation. However, if routine pulsing should become necessary, it would be of benefit to first perform a test pulse to confirm that the reactor's pulsing characteristics have not changed. The proposed change to this technical specification would also establish a requirement which is more consistent with ANS/ANSI Standard 15.1, which states that "surveillance tests, (except those specifically required for safety when the reactor is shutdown) may be deferred during reactor shutdown; however, they must be completed prior to reactor startup." Although the OSTR itself will not be shutdown, the pulse mode is not being routinely used and certainly could be regarded as inactive (or shutdown).

Proposed Amendment of Technical Specification 6.1

Replace the second sentence of specification 6.1.a with the following:

"The Radiation Center Director shall be responsible to Oregon State University's Vice Provost for Research and International Programs for the safe operation and maintenance of the reactor and its associated equipment."

Replace the organization chart in specification 6.1.b with the following:



———— Normal administrative reporting channel

- - - - - Technical review (as applicable), communications and assistance

As a result of an independent review of the university's organization, a number of changes have been made to OSU's administrative structure. The position of Vice President for Finance and Administration has been renamed Chief Business Officer, and the Radiation Center Director, along with the Directors of other similar centers, now reports to the Vice Provost for Research and International Programs. The Provost, who will also serve as Executive Vice President of the university, has taken over a number of duties formerly executed by the President. Therefore, the reporting level of the Radiation Center Director has really not changed.

Proposed Amendment of Technical Specification 6.5.g

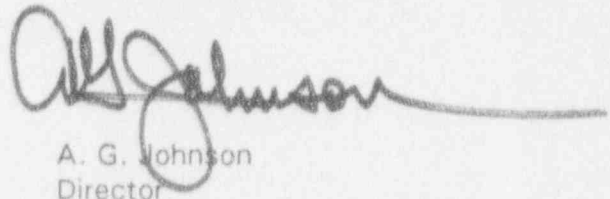
Correct the spelling/typographical error of the word 'approval' in the first sentence.
This is just a correction and does not actually change the specification.

Proposed Amendment of Technical Specification 6.6c

Change "These" to "Those" in part c. This is just a correction in grammar and does not actually change the specification.

The proposed Technical Specification changes we are submitting have been reviewed and approved by the OSTR Reactor Operations Committee. In addition, revised pages incorporating the proposed Technical Specification changes are included for your convenience. Should there be a need for further information, please let me know. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Yours sincerely,



A. G. Johnson
Director

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