



UNITED STATES
 NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
 REGION II
 101 MARIETTA STREET, N.W.
 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30323

NOV 19 1990

Report No. 70-824/90-04

Licensee: Babcock and Wilcox Company
 Naval Nuclear Fuel Division
 NNFD Research Laboratory
 Lynchburg, VA 24505

Docket No.: 70-824

License No.: SNM-778

Facility Name: NNFD Research Laboratory

Inspection Conducted: September 24-28, 1990

Inspector: J. B. Kahle, Senior Resident Inspector

11/19/90
 Date Signed

Approved by: E. J. McAlpine, Chief
 Radiation Safety Projects Section
 Nuclear Materials Safety and
 Safeguards Branch
 Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards

11/19/90
 Date Signed

SUMMARY

Scope:

This routine, unannounced inspection involved management controls, training, nuclear criticality safety, operations, maintenance, and followup on an Inspector Followup Item.

Results:

Within the scope of the inspection, no violations or deviations were identified. One Inspector Followup Item was closed: Periodic testing requirements for sump pump.

REPORT DETAILS

1. Persons Contacted

Licensee Employees

- *R. Bennett, Manager, Safety and Licensing Manager
- *C. Boyd, Jr., Licensing and Compliance Officer
- R. Buchanan, Maintenance Foreman
- T. Grochowski, Health Physicist
- J. Henderson, Post Irradiation Examination Supervisor
- S. Schilthelm, Health Physics Supervisor
- *D. Spangler, Health Physicist
- C. Yates, Health Physicist
- W. Younger, Plant Engineering Supervisor

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- *L. Trent, Safety and Safeguards Manager
- F. Alcorn, Nuclear Criticality Safety Engineering Manager

The inspector also interviewed several other licensee employees.

*Attended exit interview

2. Management Organization and Controls (88005)

a. Organizational Structure

License Amendment 10 was issued on August 6, 1990 to change the corporate ownership from Babcock and Wilcox (B&W) McDermott, Inc. to Babcock and Wilcox Investment Company. This was a corporate name change only. There has been no structural organization changes or changes in management personnel since the previous inspection.

No violations or deviations were identified.

b. Safety Committees

The inspector reviewed the minutes of the six SRC meetings held since the last inspection and determined that the meetings were held at the required frequency with the required quorum present. The inspector also determined that the agenda for items reviewed were in accordance with the charter. It was apparent that many procedures and changes to procedures were reviewed during the meetings.

No violations or deviations were identified.

c. Procedures

The inspector verified that many procedures had been revised during the past year and that the revisions had been reviewed and approved in accordance with regulatory and procedural requirements.

No violations or deviations were identified.

3. Nuclear Criticality Safety (88015, 88020, 88025)

a. Facility Changes and Modifications

There have been no changes involving licensed materials since the last inspection. Therefore, there were no safety evaluations performed. The inspector discussed the nuclear criticality safety evaluation criteria with licensee representatives.

No violations or deviations were identified.

b. Audits

The inspector reviewed the Nuclear Safety Officer's quarterly audits for 3rd and 4th quarters of 1989 and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarters of 1990.

The inspector also reviewed the Safety Audit Subcommittee (SAS) reports for October 1989, December 1989, and May 1990. The frequency of the audits and membership of the SAS were determined to be in accordance with Section 2.8.3 of the license application.

No violations or deviations were identified.

c. Criticality Monitoring Systems

The inspector reviewed the calibration procedures for the NMC criticality alarm monitors and the NMC neutron criticality detectors. The inspector verified that the criticality alarm units were calibrated semi-annually.

The inspector reviewed the weekly functional tests for the criticality monitoring systems, which were performed on a rotating schedule so that all monitors were checked monthly.

During tours of plant areas the inspector observed that individual monitors were operable and that none were in a failed or alarmed condition.

No violations or deviations were identified.

4. Training (88010)

The inspector discussed the operator training programs with licensee representatives. A review was made of the training agenda for three training programs and the procedure for accomplishing the training. Verification was made that training was received by laboratory employees and that appropriate radiation detection and identification badges were issued in accordance with the level of training received.

No violations or deviations were identified.

5. Operations (88020)

a. Hot Cell

The inspector discussed the scope and the nature of the work performed in the Hot Cells with licensee representatives. Verification was made that approved procedures were available to operators and that logs were maintained in accordance with procedural requirements.

No violations or deviations were identified.

b. Cask Handling Area (CHA) Pool

The inspector discussed the activities in the CHA with licensee representatives and observed that no housekeeping conditions existed which would prevent work from being accomplished in a safe manner.

No violations or deviations were identified.

6. Followup on Inspector Identified Items (92701)

(Closed) IFI (89-06-01): Functionally testing the pool pump and float controllers.

The inspector examined the maintenance log records to verify that the float controllers were tested weekly and discussed the procedure with licensee representatives. The matter of testing the pump and controllers is closed.

7. Exit Interview (30703)

The inspection scope and findings were summarized on September 28, 1990, with those persons indicated in paragraph 1. The licensee did not identify any materials provided to the inspector as proprietary. License management representatives were informed that IFI 89-06-01 regarding the functionally testing of the pool pump and float controls was closed.