

FEB 04 1994

Docket No. 50-160
License No. R-97

Georgia Institute of Technology
ATTN: Dr. Ratib A. Karam, Director
Neely Nuclear Research Center
225 North Avenue
Atlanta, GA 30332

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-160/93-03

Thank you for your response of January 21, 1994, to our concerns regarding the adequacy of exercise scenarios used for evaluating the Neely Nuclear Research Center emergency response capability.

Regarding Item I.1.2 (Actions Taken), the NRC inspector acknowledges the discussion but, based on your characterization, further clarification appears warranted. We believe that you could increase the effectiveness of your training if personnel involved with the scenario development process do not also participate as a "player" in the exercise. This would help assure training deficiencies would be brought out by the exercise because none of the participants would know the expected answers to the exercise situations beforehand.

Regarding the use of "tag a long" observers for training purposes, we suggest you consider instructing those staff and/or students, selected to participate in this manner, on the need to avoid any activity that would impede or enhance the response of the exercise "players." If not carefully controlled, actions by unqualified drill "observers" sometimes result in exercise performance being rated as unsatisfactory. However, as part of the post-exercise evaluation (critique), comments from these "observers" could provide input for performance improvement in the areas observed.

We noted, in item II.4 (Actions Planned), your reference to the level of emergency being considered for the 1994 drill. Future correspondence addressing scenario planning and discussion should be kept confidential to ensure details are not available to exercise participants. Our letter to you dated April 22, 1992, provides additional guidance on the transmission of drill information to the NRC.

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We will examine your corrective actions during a future inspection. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact us.

Sincerely,

William E. Cline, Chief
Radiological Protection and
Emergency Preparedness Branch
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

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