

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION I

Report No. 70-371/90-05

Docket No. 70-371

License No. SNM-368

Priority 1

Category UHFF


Licensee: UNC Naval Products  
67 Sandy Desert Road  
Uncasville, Connecticut 06382-0981

Facility Name: UNC Naval Products

Inspection At: Montville, Connecticut

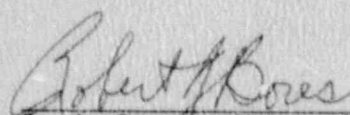
Inspection Conducted: September 5, 1990

Inspector:

  
J. Roth, Project Engineer, Effluents Radiation  
Protection Section, Facilities Radiological  
Safety and Safeguards Branch (FRSSB), Division  
of Radiation Safety and Safeguards (DRSS)

9-25-90  
date

Approved by:

  
R. J. Bores, Chief, Effluents Radiation  
Protection Section, FRSSB, DRSS

9/25/90  
date

Inspection Summary: Inspection on September 5, 1990 (Inspection Report  
No. 70-371/90-05).

Areas Inspected: Routine, announced inspection by a region-based inspector of continuing operations with special nuclear material, the status of decommissioning activities and to review the content of the June 1, 1990 facility decommissioning plan with licensee representatives.

Results: No violations or deviations were identified.

## DETAILS

### 1.0 Individuals Contacted

\*R. Gregg, Director, Technical Services  
T. Gutman, Criticality and Licensing Specialist  
D. Luster, Health Physics Specialist  
D. Birks, Criticality Engineer

\*Present at the exit interview

### 2.0 Review of Operations

The inspector toured the plant to observe activities in progress, to inspect the criticality and fire safety aspects of existing operations, and to check the general status of decommissioning activities.

#### 2.1 Existing Process Operations

The inspector observed that special nuclear material processing, other than that located in Building B-South, continued in operation with the exception of the pack assembly, welding and initial treatment operations. Storage of fuel-bearing components throughout the facility was conducted as required by license conditions. The licensee had converted the East Building Annex II area into a staging location for the inspection, preparation and packaging and shipment of fuel-bearing components to the Babcock and Wilcox (B&W), Lynchburg, Virginia, Naval Products facility. The observed activities were all in accordance with the license requirements.

#### 2.2 L-Building Status

The inspector observed that L-Building Special Nuclear Material Vault had been cleaned out and operators were decontaminating the area, starting from the ceiling and working down. The inspector observed that this was in accordance with good practice.

#### 2.3 Building B-South

The inspector noted that all Unit I and special nuclear materials Unit II handling operations had been halted. The licensee initiated removal of all processing equipment from the Unit II area and was in the process of decontaminating Unit I equipment in preparation for removal. During examination of the Unit II facility, the inspector requested the licensee to perform a contamination survey on a sheet of metal which had been decontaminated and placed on the floor in a uncontrolled laydown area. The licensee determined the existence of contamination on the plate in areas as high as 36,000 dpm/100 cm<sup>2</sup> on

what should have been a clean (less than 5000 dpm/100 cm<sup>2</sup>) piece of metal. Licensee representatives stated that personnel working in the area had walked on this piece of metal and recontaminated it after completion of the cleaning. As a result the inspector stated that the licensee should consider a restricted access laydown area for the storage of cleaned items so that this type of recontamination would not occur. Licensee representatives stated that the establishment of a restricted access laydown area would be considered and adopted, if appropriate.

#### 2.4 Welding Area

During examination of the welding area, licensee representatives stated that thoriated tungsten welding rods routinely were used. As a result, the inspector stated that the licensee should evaluate the contamination levels in this area and the need to perform additional cleanup.

#### 2.5 Building M Fuel-Bearing Component Storage Area

During examination of the Building M fuel-bearing component storage area, the inspector examined an empty Model UNC-2500 shipping container (Part No. 303798, Serial No. 001). The inspector noted that the container was no longer conspicuously marked with the model number, gross weight and the NRC-assigned package identification number. Licensee representatives stated that the container would be conspicuously marked as required prior to its next use. The inspector observed no activities or conditions which were being conducted or which existed contrary to the licensee's requirements.

#### 3.0 Decommissioning Plan Review

The inspector provided licensee representatives with oral comments and observations concerning the content of the licensee's June 1, 1990 facility decommissioning plan. The inspector also informed the licensee that written comments and questions concerning the plan would be provided by the NRC Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards (NMSS).

#### 4.0 Exit Interview

The inspector met with the licensee representative (denoted in Section 1.0) at the conclusion of the inspection on September 5, 1990. The inspector summarized the purpose, scope and findings of the inspection.