



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
531 PARK AVENUE
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

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OCT 18 1978

Docket No. 50-20

Massachusetts Institute of Technology Research Reactor
ATTN: Mr. Lincoln Clark, Jr.
Director of Reactor Operations
138 Albany Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Gentlemen:

Subject: Inspection 50-20/78-05

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. K. Plumlee of this office on September 13-15, 1978, of activities authorized by NRC License No. R-37 and to the discussions of our findings held by Mr. Plumlee with Mr. K. Collins & others of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection, and to a subsequent telephone discussion between Mr. Plumlee and Mr. L. Clark on September 21, 1978.

Areas examined during this inspection are described in the Office of Inspection and Enforcement Inspection Report which is enclosed with this letter. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, measurements made by the inspector, and observations by the inspector.

Based on the results of this inspection, it appears that one of your activities was not conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements, as set forth in the Notice of Violation, enclosed herewith as Appendix A. This item of noncompliance has been categorized into the levels as described in our correspondence to you dated December 31, 1974. This notice is sent to you pursuant to the provisions of Section 2.201 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations. Although Section 2.201 requires you to submit to this office, within 20 days of your receipt of this notice, a written statement of explanation, we note that by September 21, 1978, actions had been taken to prevent recurrence of this item of noncompliance, and therefore, no response with respect to this matter is required. We will review this corrective action during the next inspection of your facility.

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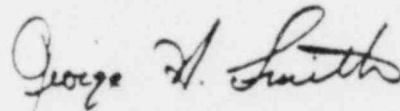
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In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room. If this report contains any information that you (or your contractor) believe to be proprietary, it is necessary that you make a written application within 20 days to this office to withhold such information from public disclosure. Any such application must be accompanied by an affidavit executed by the owner of the information, which identifies the document or part sought to be withheld, and which contains a statement of reasons which addresses with specificity the items which will be considered by the Commission as listed in subparagraph (b)(4) of Section 2.790. The information sought to be withheld shall be incorporated as far as possible into a separate part of the affidavit. If we do not hear from you in this regard within the specified period, the report will be placed in the Public Document Room.

No reply to this letter is required; however, should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,



George H. Smith, Chief
Fuel Facility and Materials Safety
Branch

Enclosure:

1. Appendix A, Notice of Violation
2. Office of Inspection and Enforcement Inspection
Report Number 50-20/78-05

cc w/encl:

Dr. O. K. Harling, Director of the Reactor Laboratory