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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
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Nuclear Engineering Program
512-471-5136*

January 14, 1983

Mr. Cecil O. Thomas
Standardization & Special
Projects Branch
Division of Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Renovation, demolition, and construction plans for Taylor Hall including areas containing the University of Texas TRIGA reactor facility have been separated into two distinct phases. The first phase is in the initial design stages after approval and authorization of funds by the Board of Regents. The second phase which consists of construction of a multistory structure encroaching on the reactor facility area is currently deferred for future consideration. Although specific details of phase one design are not fully determined some aspects of the renovation have been identified.

Renovation of reactor room facilities includes relocation of all utility sources, (water, electrical and communication), reconstruction of entry way, reconstruction of control room walls and construction of new east wall and shop area. Renovation of adjacent laboratories is not expected to impact on the reactor room. Two major considerations of the renovation are physical security and room ventilation requirements. Plans of interim physical security measures require the determination of more specific renovation details. The current status of room air ventilation is a closed system, containing 24,000 ft³, with restricted outside leakage.

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A ventilation unit with damper and HEPA filter are installed but not in use. An investigation is in progress to replace the ventilation unit during renovation since other room air handling systems are also to be effected by the renovation. Until details of the renovation are available continued operation of the facility as a closed system with restricted leakage is requested rather than implementing operation of the current ventilation system. Room volume after renovation and construction of new east wall can be maintained by increasing the east workshop area and removing the radiochemistry room area. The result should allow 10CFR50.59 changes for the renovation assuming appropriate physical security measures are approved.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas L. Bauer

Thomas L. Bauer
Reactor Supervisor
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TLB:mgm