

March 18, 1994

Docket No. 50-166

Dr. George E. Dieter, Dean
College of Engineering
University of Maryland
Engineering Classroom Building
Room 1137D
College Park, Maryland 20742

Dear Dr. Dieter:

Subject: NRC Inspection No. 50-166/94-01

An announced inspection of your radiation safety program was conducted by Mr. Stephen Holmes of this office, on January 25-31, 1994 of activities authorized by NRC License No. R-70. Discussions of our findings were held by Mr. Holmes with Mr. Bob Ryan and other members of your staff at the conclusion of this inspection.

Areas reviewed during this inspection are important to public health and safety and are described in the enclosed inspection report. The areas examined included status of a previously identified item, staffing, personnel dosimetry, instrument calibration, radiation surveys and analyses, postings, procedures and policy, and new 10 CFR 20 implementation. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations made by the inspector.

Within the scope of this review, we found that portable survey equipment calibration, personnel monitoring programs, postings, and general housekeeping were good. The inspector and licensee representatives discussed pertinent areas of the radiation protection program that were undergoing revision in implementation of the new 10 CFR 20 requirements.

Weaknesses regarding health physics staffing and qualifications were also discussed with the licensee. In response to a previous inspection concern (Report 50-166/92-01), the staff and oversight committees determined that the then present staffing level of four (two Senior Health physicists (HPs) and two Junior HPs) was sufficient to meet the reactor and campus work loads. However, with the retirement of the former radiation safety officer, your full-time staff has been reduced to three (one Senior HP and two Jr. HPs). We request that you initiate an evaluation of the present staffing level and that you provide to NRC Region I, when your evaluation is completed, any actions taken or planned to improve staffing, or justification to show that the present staffing is adequate.

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No violations of regulatory requirements were identified.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By;
James H. Joyner

James H. Joyner, Chief
Facilities Radiological Safety
and Safeguards Branch
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure: NRC Region I Inspection Report No. 50-166/94-01

cc w/encl:

Dr. W. Chappas, Reactor Director

Dr. G. Pertmer, Director, Nuclear Engineering Program

Dr. M. Wuttig, Chairman, Department of Materials and Nuclear Engineering

Dr. William Vernetson, TRTR

K. Abraham, PAO (2)

Public Document Room (PDR)

Local Public Document Room (LPDR)

Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)

State of Maryland (2)

University of Maryland

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bcc w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

T. F. Dragoun, DRSS

S. Holmes, DRSS

S. Weiss, NRR (OWFN 10D21)

J. Caldwell, NRR/LOLB (OWFN 10D22)

V. McCree, OEDO

DRSS:RI

Joyner

YKS
3/15/94