



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

13 November 1990

Jack Hornor  
Phil Qualls ✓  
U.S. NRC  
Region V  
1450 Maria Lane  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Dear Mr. Hornor:

This letter is in reference to the telephone discussions held with you and Phil Qualls today concerning the security of the reactor console operating room at Washington State University in Pullman, Washington.

As discussed, during our inspection of 4-6 September 1990 the door interlock from the hallway to the reactor operating console room was observed to be routinely bypassed so that the door actually stood open when the security deadbolt had been thrown from the inside and the warning light on the door exterior erroneously indicated the door was locked. On at least one occasion, it was noted by one of our inspectors, J. Waite, that there was no one present in either the first room or the second (which is actually the operating console room). During this observation, when our inspector was standing alone in the console room, the reactor director Jerry Neidiger re-entered from the hallway. This was discussed with the licensee at both the closing conference and again later here at the subsequent management conference. Both times we told them we would refer this to Region V.

Should you need further documentation or information feel free to call. Thank you

Sincerely,

C. DeMaris  
Lead Inspector

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