

NOV 19 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: John T. Collins, Deputy Director  
FROM: William J. Raymond, Reactor Inspector  
SUBJECT: STATUS OF PENETRATION R626 ACTIVITIES

54-32d

The following summarizes experiments completed to date on penetration R626 and gives the status of subsequent work plans.

- a) Operations completed (i) camera insertion and surveillance for damage. No obvious indications of major equipment/structural damage were observed. The tapes are available for staff viewings through Tom Menzel. (ii) beta and gamma surveys; these results have been previously transmitted by Met Ed. (iii) Three air samples; preliminary results on these samples were provided in my November 16 memo to you. (iv) Smear samples of RB horizontal and vertical surfaces. The results of these measurements are not yet available. (v) In containment relative humidity and temperature reading. These results follow.
- b) Relative humidity and temperature: on November 16, temperature and relative humidity gauges were inserted through R626 into RB atmosphere and read using the TV camera. Atmospheric conditions were 84° F with 100% r.h. These valves showed a slight increase over measurements taken inside the glove box.
- c) During swipe surveys, 3 swipes were taken off a horizontal surface (the R626 pipe) and one from a vertical surface (the RB liner). Two other swipes were lost when the "shepherds hook" used to get the samples became caught and subsequently bent on the R626 inboard flange during attempts to retrieve the swipe samples. The hook will be pushed into the RB.
- d) The TV camera is temporarily out of service for two reasons. Subsequent to the RB visual survey on Saturday, motive power to the zoom lens was lost, leaving the lens in a position for wide-area reviewing only. On November 15, the 650 watt high intensity lamp burned out when condensation dripping from the dome fell on it. Plans are to retrieve and replace/repair the apparatus pending extension of a service contract by GPU.
- e) A final set of measurements that are yet to be completed involve using the in-containment beta probe wrapped with various anti-C material. Continuation of this work is apparently subject to further contract settlements between B&W and GPU. I feel we should monitor this situation

and provide sufficient prodding if necessary to ensure this valuable information (anti-C shielding effectiveness) is obtained to support a containment entry without prior RB purging.

- r) Much discussion has occurred among our staff and the licensee's staff regarding the in-containment beta survey. The bottom line is that I believe the readings are suspect due to: (i) consistent uniformity of the values over wide areas, with no variations apparent when the probe was located closer to walls, floors and structures. (ii) The fact that the 390 Rad/hr reading still registered on the probe after it was retracted into the glove box and the gate valve was closed. As of November 16, Menzel and B&W have shown no strong inclinations to repeat the measurements. I recommend that they be asked to do so via letter under your signature.

W. J. Raymond

cc: G. Kalman  
J. Lee

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