

February 12, 1991

Dr. Norman R. Scott, Vice President
for Research and Advanced Studies
Cornell University
314 Day Hall
Ithaca, New York 14853-2801

Dear Dr. Scott:

SUBJECT: DECOMMISSIONING REPORT, SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO 10 CFR 50.33(k)(2)
FOR CORNELL ZERO POWER REACTOR AND CORNELL TRIGA REACTOR

By letter dated July 25, 1990, you submitted a Decommissioning Report for the two reactors owned and operated by Cornell University pursuant to 10 CFR 50.33(k)(2), which provided information required by 10 CFR 50.75(d). We have reviewed your submittal and find that it is acceptable, except for the request of exemption under 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii, and (iii) from the requirement of providing assurance of availability of decommissioning funds by any of the three methods of 10 CFR 50.75(e)(2); i.e., prepayment, an external sinking fund or a guarantee method. Enclosed for your information is a Safety Evaluation Report, which sets forth the basis for denying your request for exemption. In this enclosure, the Background, Section II, discusses the General Electric (GE) Company's request for an exemption and how it was resolved in Commission Paper SECY-90-217. The Commission, in SECY-90-217, also assented to the staff's recommendation that "the staff intends to treat similar requests in like fashion and does not intend to reconsult the Commission on staff response to those requests."

Please resubmit your Decommissioning Report pursuant to 10 CFR 50.75 outlining how you propose to assure the availability of decommissioning funds by either prepayment, an external sinking fund or a guarantee method such as a surety bond or letter of credit. We request that you submit this information within 60 days of the date of this letter. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me on (301) 492-1102.

Sincerely,

Theodore S. Michaels, Senior Project Manager
Non-Power Reactors, Decommissioning and
Environmental Project Directorate
Division of Advanced Reactors
and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure: See next page

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Cornell University

Docket Nos. 50-97/157

cc: New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
ATTN: Director, Office of
Environmental Analysis
Albany, New York 12223

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