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U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS  
REGION I

1. Inspection Report No.: RO:I 70-903 GUEP MAPP-74-1

Docket No. 70-903

Licensee: Gulf United Nuclear Corporation

License No.: SNM-871

Priority: \_\_\_\_\_

Category: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: Elmsford, New York

Type of License: Research and Development

Type of Inspection: Level III, announced inquiry

Date of Inspection: August 22, 1973

Date of Previous Inspection: October 30-November 3, 1972

Inspecting Inspector: *I. Cohen*  
I. Cohen  
Chemist

9/14/73  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

Accompanying Inspectors: NONE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

Other Accompanying Personnel: NONE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
*W. G. Martin*  
W. G. Martin, Chief, Materials and Plant Protection Branch

9/14/73  
DATE

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Gulf United Nuclear Corporation  
RO:1 70-903 GUEP-MAPP-74-1

A. Introduction

On 8/22/73 the licensee was visited to determine their plan in regard to current and future holdings of special nuclear material so that the MAPP group could plan their inspection activity. In addition there was an inspection of some of the licensee's material protection practices. There were two events at the licensee which affected the licensee's workload. During the latter part of 1972 the licensee experienced a glovebox accident at the Pawling plutonium facility. The accident caused the facility to be shutdown. During August 1973 there was an announcement that United Nuclear Corporation intended to sell their interest in Gulf United Nuclear to the Gulf Oil-Shell Oil group.

B. Information Gathered

In a meeting with P. Loysen, Manager, Regulatory Administration and M. Langham, Manager, NMM, it was disclosed that Gulf Oil plans to move all personnel from the Elmsford and Pawling sites by June 30, 1974. These people will be moved to either Barnwell, South Carolina or New Haven, Connecticut. M. Langham indicated that he would probably be transferred to the New Haven facility before the end of 1973. Should this occur, there would be no special nuclear material representative at the New York site. The Pawling areas are clean and accessible, however, the areas are still undergoing decontamination. There is no intent to make the facility operational until it meets with the license requirements. Plans are to decrease the special nuclear material holdings to zero prior to June 1974.

C. Future Inspection Activity

The present licensee's special nuclear material holdings are less than 5 kilograms. The major inventory consists of identifiable items such as fuel rods, sources, retainer samples, and standards. Inspection activity should consist of three one day visits for fiscal year 1974, one of which is a physical protection inspection.

D. Inspection Findings

The results of the physical inventory taken during September 12, 1972 were as follows:

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<u>Category</u>	<u>No. of Items</u>	<u>Pu kg</u>	<u>U-235 kg</u>
<10g SNM, samples, standards wastes	107	.8	.4
Compounds	88	5.1	7.5
Fuel Rods	163	3.8	.1
UO <sub>2</sub>	19		2.1
PuO <sub>2</sub>	29	8.8	
	406	18.5	10.1

MUF Pu 24g + 88g U-235 31g + 51g

Current Investigation as per 7/31/73 AEC 742

<u>Account - Type Material</u>	<u>Element(g)</u>	<u>Isotope(g)</u>
YFQ - Pu (Source	80	74
YFQ - EU	50,441	1418
CCT - Pu	514	469
CCT - EU	2	2
YFQ- Pu (Rods)	3701	2956

The control ledger was checked to the material status reports and each item in the MSR agreed. Copies of the 7/31/73 MSR will be forwarded to this office.

The YFQ report for plutonium showed a normal operational loss of Pu 3701g, isotope 2956g. M. Langham indicated that this quantity was not lost but appeared as a loss so that it could be transferred from the lease account to private ownership. (As per P.A. Craig instructions - AEC Plutonium Leasing Officer.) It was suggested that Langham get instructions from Craig as to how this material would be picked up in the private ownership account report for December 1, 1973. Langham was notified that the annual physical inventory was due prior to December 1, 1973 and that we would want to observe this inventory.

E. Findings

There were no items of non-compliance noted as a result of this inspection. Inspection SOI-47 stated that the licensee was in non-compliance with license condition 1.2 & 7.1. These items were corrected.

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The previous inspection MAPP-65 which began on 9/13/72 was not completed because of the glovebox incident; there were no items of non-compliance noted as a result of that inspection.

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