

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 50-160

NEELY NUCLEAR RESEARCH REACTOR
(LICENSE NO. R-97)RECEIPT OF PETITION FOR DIRECTOR'S DECISION
UNDER 10 CFR 2.206

Notice is hereby given that by Petition dated October 23, 1994, Ms. Pamela Blockey-O'Brien requested that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) take action with regard to the Neely Nuclear Research Reactor. The Petition requests that the NRC revoke the license of the Neely Nuclear Research Reactor at the Georgia Institute of Technology, shut down this reactor and its support facilities, and remove all radioactive materials and contamination offsite to a government-created "National Sacrifice area" such as the Savannah River or Oak Ridge facilities. The Petition also requests that the NRC withdraw all license authority nationwide involving the discharging or dumping of any quantity of radioactive material to all the sewers or waters in the United States or oceans of the world, and withdraw all licenses to all nuclear facilities, including nuclear power plants (NPPs), which operate under as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA) principles. Finally, the Petition requests both that the NRC modify every license issued to transporters of radioactive materials and builders of NPPs so that these parties must put 2-foot high letters on everything transported or built stating "DANGER-RADIOACTIVE" and in slightly smaller letters "there is no safe level of radiation, any exposure can effect health," and prohibit the transportation of radioactive material by mail.

The Petition asserts as bases for the request to shut down and decontaminate the research reactor at the Georgia Institute of Technology that (1) a water flume comes out of the ground "destabilizing the reactor and the ground in some way;" (2) "(r)adiation levels in soil and vegetation climb markedly in GA EPD documents" around the reactor; (3) there is no record of air monitoring ever having been done; (4) heavy rainfall causes water to back up in the sewer and drainage lines causing flooding of the reactor parking lot and campus, as well as causing sinkholes, "puff-ups" on campus ground, and welded-shut manhole covers to be blown off; (5) radioactive contaminants have been routinely discharged into the sanitary sewer from the research reactor's wastewater holding tank; (6) should the research reactor be further destabilized, the reactor and the tank holding cobalt-60 could "break apart," causing radioactive contaminants to "drain into groundwater/down sewers/into the runoff ditch;" (7) the reactor is in an earthquake zone; (8) there is absolutely no reason to keep the reactor operating; (9) security at the reactor is extremely lax; and (10) in case of an accident or terrorist attack, evacuation of the campus and downtown Atlanta would be impossible both now and during the Olympics.

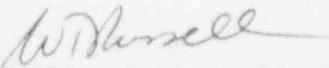
The Petition asserts as the bases for the request to withdraw all license authority nationwide involving the discharging or dumping of any quantity of radioactive material to all the sewers or waters in the United States, and to withdraw all licenses to all nuclear facilities, including NPPs, which operate

under ALARA principles, that there is no safe level of radiation and that the NRC's new sewage dumping guidelines are totally inadequate. The Petition does not assert any bases for the requests on the labeling and mailing of radioactive materials.

The Petition has been referred to the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation pursuant to 10 CFR 2.206. As provided by Section 2.206, the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation will take appropriate action on the specific issues raised by the Petition in a reasonable time.

A copy of the Petition is available for inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room at 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


William T. Russell, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Dated at Rockville, Maryland
this 22nd day of November, 1994