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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION V  
1450 MARIA LANE, SUITE 210  
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596

MAY 7 1984

Docket No. 50-142

University of California at Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, California 90024

Attention: Walter F. Wegst, PhD, Director  
Office of Research and Occupational Safety

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NRC APPRAISAL OF NUCLEAR ENERGY LABORATORY RESEARCH REACTOR - UCLA

This refers to the announced operational appraisal of the emergency preparedness program conducted by Messrs. E. F. Bates, NRC Office of Inspection and Enforcement, and G. A. Stoetzel, NRC contractor, during the period of August 22-26, 1983. The findings were discussed most recently with I. Catton of your staff on April 18, 1984.

Areas examined are described in the enclosed Appraisal Report. Within these areas, the appraisal consisted of selective examination of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the team members.

This appraisal disclosed a number of areas related to your emergency preparedness program where actions are still to be taken to reach full implementation of the program. Because additional actions are required, these items have been identified as open. Appendix A to this letter is a listing of these items. A reply to these open items is not required. Rather, satisfactory completion of the actions will be confirmed during future inspections.

We have also identified some areas where we believe improvements could be made in your emergency preparedness program. These are discussed in Appendix B, "Improvement Areas." We recognize that an explicit regulatory requirement pertaining to each item identified in Appendix B may not currently exist, but it is our belief that additional effort in these areas would result in program improvements. No written response is required for the items identified in Appendix B. However, we will review your actions on these items during future inspections.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790(a), a copy of this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room unless you notify this office, by telephone, within ten days of the date of this letter and submit written application to withhold information contained therein within 30 days of the date of this letter. Such application must be consistent with the requirements of 2.790(b)(1).

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Walter F. Wegst

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Should you have any questions concerning this appraisal, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

Original signed by  
L. R. Norderhaug

LeRoy R. Norderhaug, Chief  
Safeguards and Emergency Preparedness Branch

Enclosure:

- 1. Appendix A
- 2. Appendix B
- 3. Appraisal Report  
No. 50-142/83-03 (IE-V-589)

cc w/enclosures:

- Dr. I. Catton, NEL, UCLA
- J. McLaughlin, RSO, UCLA
- N. Ostrander, NEL, UCLA
- D. Matthews, Acting Chief, EPB:IE
- G. Bates, EPB:IE

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APPENDIX A

OPEN ITEMS

The following list of open items were identified during the August 22-26, 1983 appraisal of the UCLA Nuclear Energy Laboratory Research Reactor emergency preparedness program. These items are considered to be open because additional actions are required to reach full implementation of the program. The references in the parentheses are to the Section of the Appraisal Report No. 50-142/83-03.

1. Emergency supplies and equipment designated for emergency use were not adequate. (3.5.1)
2. Provisions had not been made to ensure that emergency supplies and equipment are inventoried for operational status and maintained up to date. (3.5.1)
3. Portable survey instruments in the emergency kit had not been calibrated and were not operable. (3.5.1)
4. The TMC-400 channel analyzer had not been calibrated since 1975. (3.6.1)
5. The annual emergency drill had not been conducted. (4.3.1)

## APPENDIX B

### IMPROVEMENT AREAS

Based on the results of the August 22-26, 1983 appraisal of the UCLA Nuclear Energy Laboratory Research Reactor emergency preparedness program, the following items should be considered for improving the program. The references in the parentheses are to the Sections of the Appraisal Report No. 50-142/83-03.

1. The emergency plan/emergency procedures should be revised to establish communication links between the emergency director and reactor health physicist for emergency response. (2.0.1)
2. A training session on the basic principles of radiation protection and familiarization tours of the reactor facility should be provided to the LAFD Company 37. (2.1.1.1 and 4.2.1)
3. Training on radiation hazards associated with the reactor facility and radiation safety should be provided to the UCLA Police Department. (2.1.3.1 and 4.2.1)
4. A method should be established to ensure that all police officers participate in an annual familiarization tour of the reactor facility. (2.1.3.1)
5. A method should be established that ensures that required decontamination supplies and equipment necessary for personnel decontamination are readily available at the designated decontamination facilities. (3.2.1)
6. Procedures should be updated and revised as necessary to ensure proper maintenance and calibration of the TMC-400 channel analyzer. (3.6.1)
7. Consideration should be given to consolidating the maintenance and calibrations of radiation detection instruments that would be relied on during an emergency under one responsible group, e.g., reactor health physics or reactor operations. (3.6.1)
8. The training program should be more formally structured to specify objectives and provide special training for personnel with specific assignments and responsibilities for emergency response. (4.2.1)
9. The NEL should establish an integrated record keeping system for all emergency planning training. (4.2.1)