

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II 101 MARIETTA STREET, N.W. ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

Report No.: 50-276/84-02

Licensee: Georgia Institute of Technology

225 North Avenue Atlanta, GA 30332

Docket No.: 50-276

License No.: R-111

Facility Name: AGN-201 Reactor

Inspection at AGN-201 Reactor

Inspectors: J. L. K

4-25-84
Date Signed

for G. No Huffman Date Signed

Approved by:

W. E. Cline, Acting Chief Emergency Preparedness Section

Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards

SUMMARY

Inspection on April 11-12, 1984

Areas Inspected

This routine, unannounced inspection involved eight inspector-hours on site in the area of emergency preparedness.

Results

Of the areas inspected, one apparent deviation was found.

REPORT DETAILS

1. Persons Contacted

Licensee Employees

*R. A. Karam, Ph.D., Interim Director, Nuclear Research Center

*R. S. Kirkland, Associate Director, Nuclear Research Center

J. M. Kallfelz, Ph.D., Associate Director, School of Mechanical Engineering

*S. N. Millspaugh, Deputy Radiation Safety Officer J. Vickery, Chief, Georgia Tech Police Department

*Attended exit interview

2. Exit Interview

The inspection scope and findings were summarized on April 12, 1984, with those persons indicated in paragraph 1 above.

3. Licensee Action on Previous Enforcement Matters

Not inspected.

4. Unresolved Items

Unresolved items were not identified during this inspection.

5. Emergency Preparedness Program

This inspection was performed as a follow-up to the NRC inspection of March 13-15 and 21, 1984 (Report No. 50-160/84-01).

The inspector toured the reactor facility, reviewed the licensee's Proposed Emergency Plan (dated November 3, 1982), reviewed letters of agreement with offsite support groups, examined records of radiological exercises, and discussed the foregoing with licensee personnel. The following problems related to emergency preparedness were noted:

In the enclosure ("Proposed Emergency Plan") to a letter of November 3, 1982 to NRC, the licensee made the following commitment: "The reactor will be disassembled on November 11, 1982 and the core...will be removed and transferred to the fuel storage area of the Georgia Tech Research Reactor...Full decommissioning of the reactor is anticipated to take place in early 1983." On this basis, the Proposed Emergency Plan was considered by the licensee to be a stopgap measure, with no mechanism for malitaining emergency procedures. However, the licensee did not disassemble and decommission the reactor in accordance with the

above commitment, and further, the licensee neglected to inform the Commission of the change in plans. This action is a deviation from the commitment made in the licensee's letter of November 3, 1982 (50-276/84-02-01).

- In the period since its issuance, the Proposed Emergency Plan has not been appropriately revised to reflect changes in the onsite emergency response organization for the AGN-201. In addition, although Section 3.1 of the plan states that "The phone numbers of the Emergency Director, and all support organizations are available in the School of Nuclear Engineering Office", personnel in that office were unable to produce such a telephone notification list.
- No radiological exercises have been conducted since September 9, 1980, when Grady Memorial Hospital participated with the licensee in a drill involving a simulated personnel contamination problem.
- The licensee's support agreement with Grady Memorial Hospital was last updated in November 1977.
- The Proposed Emergency Plan contains no provisions for maintaining emergency preparedness, as noted previously. Since no decision has yet been made regarding decommissioning of the AGN-201, the plan should be revised to provide for biennial review and update of the emergency plan and procedures.
- If a decision is made to reactivate rather than decommission the AGN-201, then the present plan must be upgraded to conform with NRC guidance for emergency planning for operable research reactors.

During the exit meeting with licensee representatives, the licensee agreed to review and implement the following as appropriate (50-276/84-02-02):

- a. Update the plan and procedures to recognize the existing emergency organization.
- b. Update the emergency telephone list and assure that emergency personnel know how to obtain it when needed.
- c. Update the agreement with Grady Memorial Hospital and provide in the emergency plan for biennial review and periodic update (3-5 years).
- d. Conduct an emergency exercise as soon as practicable and provide in the emergency plan for annual exercises.
- e. Make provisions in the emergency plan for the biennial review and update of the plan and its implementing procedures, in case a decision is made not to decommission AGN-201.
- f. If a decision is made to reactivate AGN-201, upgrade the emergency plan according to the hazard potential.