COMMITTEE TO BRIDGE THE GAP
1637 BUTLER AVENUE #203
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90025
(213) 478-0829

April 24, 1984

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

FOIA-84-326
rec'd 04/30/84

Director
Office of Administration
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

RE: FOIA REQUEST

Dear Madam/Sir:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act, as amended.

I hereby request copies of all correspondence or other documents transmitted between UCLA and the NRC Staff (either at Region V or headquarters) regarding:

(1) the incident which occurred in early February, 1984, which led to the current shutdown of the UCLA research reactor,

(2) reasons for the current shutdown and for its continuation into the future,

(3) the nature of maintenance, repair, renovation, and/or alteration of the reactor facility to be performed during the shutdown,

(4) any request for approval, or analysis of whether said approval should be granted, for the proposed work to be performed on the UCLA reactor facility during the shutdown period.

Because these materials are needed as part of ongoing public interest work in the context of a relicensing proceeding, we request a waiver of production costs.

Please respond to the following address: Committee to Bridge the Gap, P.O. Box 1186, Ben Lomond, CA 95005; telephone (408) 336-5381 or 429-2486. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Daniel Hirsch

Daniel Hirsch

P.S. You need not provide correspondence from UCLA to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board on the above matters.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

UCLA

BERKELEY · DAVIS · IRVINE · LOS ANGELES · RIVERSIDE · SAN DIEGO · SAN FRANCISCO

SANTA BARBARA · SANTA CRUZ

COMMUNITY SAFETY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF RESEARCH & OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90024

13 February 1984

Director
Division of Operating Reactors
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Docket: 50-142

Dear Sir:

During the annual reactor calibrations, it was found that two of the control blades exhibited prolonged drop times, one approaching the acceptability limit and one slightly exceeding the limit.

A preliminary investigation has revealed that the problem resides within the core and not in the external drive trains. Manual torquing of the shafts suggests a thickening of the lubricant in the rod support bearings. There is no indication of roughness or points of hangup, but rather a steady viscous drag. It is well known that lubricants deteriorate in radiation fields. This kind of rod behavior has been observed previously at UCLA and was expected to recur although the life of the lubricant and hence the timing of the phenomenon was unknown.

This report is filed in compliance with our Technical Specification VIII.M.2.c. All reactor operations have been suspended pending correction of the problem.

Per E mk change requested pursuant call n. ostrander on 16 Feb 84 m Cullis

Sincerely,

Walter F. Wegst

Walter F. Wegst, Director
Office of Research &
Occupational Safety

WFW/NCO/jb

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