

17405

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKETED
USMPC

'96 JAN -4 P4:58

BEFORE THE COMMISSION

AND

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETED SERVICE
BRANCH

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

Administrative Judges:

Charles Bechhoefer, Chairman
Dr. Jerry R. Kline
Dr. Peter S. Lam

In the Matter of

Docket No. 50-160-Ren

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
RESEARCH REACTOR
Atlanta, Georgia
Facility License No. R-97

ASLBP No. 95-704-01-Ren

GEORGIANS AGAINST NUCLEAR ENERGY
SUBMITS VIDEOTAPE OF NATIONAL T.V. CREW "A CURRENT AFFAIR"
BREACH OF SECURITY AT GEORGIA TECH RESEARCH REACTOR

Georgians Against Nuclear Energy (GANE) respectfully submits the enclosed videotape as urgently relevant to issues under consideration by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board concerning safety at the Georgia Tech Research Reactor on Georgia Tech campus in downtown Atlanta, Georgia, in the middle of the 1996 Olympic Village which will provide housing to the world's athletes in July 1996. GANE requests that this videotape be considered in light of its management contention pending before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board. GANE also requests the Commission to review the enclosed tape relevant to GANE's request of 11/10/95 that you suspend

9601180122 960101
PDR ADOCK 05000160
G PDR

DS03

the part of Georgia's Agreement of 1964 (under the Atomic Energy Act) pertaining to the 250,000 curies of cobalt-60 which are presently stored in an unsafe manner at the Georgia Tech Research Reactor, and requesting that the NRC take back authority from Georgia for the cobalt-60.

GANE believes that the intrusion of the Fox Network's "A Current Affair" camera-crew into the Neely Nuclear Research Center graphically illustrates our concern that the facility is wide open to terrorists. Georgia Tech's response to the intrusion, thus far, has been to lock the door to the facility and increase the frequency of campus police drive-bys. We cannot state strongly enough that the T.V. crew were opportunists who took advantage of the lax security to get a compelling T.V. show. Real terrorists would not have entered through the front door during broad daylight. And a controversial piece of videotape would not likely have been the motive.

GANE calls upon Georgia Tech, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the State of Georgia and special Olympic security forces to begin immediately to plan for the removal of the cobalt-60 before an unthinkable tragedy is perpetrated involving it. It will take more than a locked door and frequent drive-bys to protect the Georgia Tech campus and Atlanta populations from radiological sabotage concerning the cobalt-60. Please refer to the site layout plans attached to GANE's 8/31/95 filing concerning mootness of our security contention. GANE reiterates that the chief concern is the location of the cobalt-60 by an outside wall, which makes it vulnerable to an Oklahoma City-type terrorist attack. A terrorist bomb instigated either outside the building or from within the building would cause real harm to people and the environment as well as create widespread terror. The building which houses the cobalt-60 is also particularly vulnerable through the roof which has no security protection (or detection devices) at all. This scenario can be easily prevented. It seems to GANE that it would be simpler (and more effective) to prevent an incident by removing the hazard than to attempt to guard the cobalt-60 from terrorist intent.

By now Georgia Tech should have completed moving the cesium-137 sources from the nearby Cherry Emerson Building. Beginning February 15 the weapons grade uranium fuel should be cool enough to begin transference to the cask which will transport it from the site. We appreciate these examples of Georgia Tech's concern for public health.

GANE has done some preliminary research into Georgia Tech's options for removal of the cobalt-60. The cobalt-60 was given to Georgia Tech

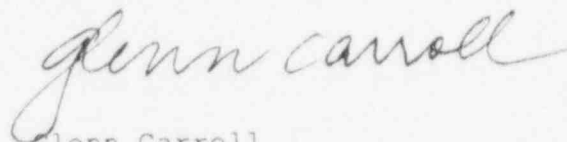
by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in the early 1980s as a "gift." When the cobalt-60 was in the possession of the DOE at the Savannah River Plant in Aiken, South Carolina, it was classified as nuclear waste - a by-product of nuclear weapons production. Having looked into the removal options, GANE believes that Georgia Tech's "gift" from the DOE is presently a grave liability to Georgia Tech and the surrounding environment.

In the early 1980s, when Georgia Tech first received the cobalt-60 from DOE, permanent removal of the material would have cost \$30,000. Today, with nuclear waste "disposal" politically stymied, costs have risen dramatically and permanent removal will cost \$1,000,000 (J.L. Shepherd Company estimates). To return the cobalt-60 to the care of DOE's Savannah River Site will cost in the neighborhood of \$80,000 to \$100,000. J.L. Shepherd Company, the contractor GANE spoke with, does not believe that the removal process is particularly exotic and that two months will be adequate lead time to secure a cask, transfer the cobalt-60 to the cask and transport the cask to another site.

GANE requests that Georgia Tech initiate proceedings to arrange for immediate, permanent return of the cobalt-60 to DOE. The cost of removal might be covered by whoever is considered to have benefitted from the presence of the cobalt-60 on Georgia Tech campus. It can come out of the Olympic Security budget. It's a relatively small price to pay to remove the threat of nuclear sabotage from the Olympic Games.

GANE believes Georgia Tech can make its greatest contribution to furthering nuclear technology by permanently shutting its reactor and remanding its major nuclear waste stores to DOE where it was created. Then Georgia Tech will be free to focus on the future of nuclear technology - nuclear waste. At Georgia Tech nuclear waste research can begin by looking at the problems of guarding and dealing with the contaminated reactor building and heavy water inventory.

Respectfully submitted,



Glenn Carroll

Representative for GANE

Dated and signed January 1, 1996
in Decatur, Georgia

DOCKETED
USNRC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE - Docket No.(s) 50-160-REN

'96 JAN -4 P4:58

Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Docketing and Service Branch
Washington, DC 20555

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
DOCKETING BRANCH

Office of Commission Appellate Adjudication
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Administrative Judge
Charles Bechhoefer, Chairman
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Administrative Judge
Peter S. Lam
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Administrative Judge
Jerry R. Kline
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Sherwin E. Turk, Esq.
Susan S. Chikadel, Esq.
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Mr. Randy A. Nordin
Manager - Legal Division
E. Gail Gunnells
Office of Contract Administration
Georgia Tech
Atlanta, GA 30332-0420

Ms. Pamela Blockey O'Brien
D23 Golden Valley
Douglasville, GA 30134

Ms. Patricia Guilday, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
40 Capitol Square NW
Atlanta, GA 30334-1300

The Honorable Zell Miller
Governor of Georgia
State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Mayor Bill Campbell
City of Atlanta
55 Trinity Avenue
Suite 2400
Atlanta, GA 30335

The Honorable John Lewis
United States Congress
229 Cannon Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Wayne Clough, President
c/o Dr. Daniel S. Papp
Executive Assistant to the President
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, GA 30332-0325

Bill Ray
Manager, Office of Facilities
Georgia Tech
225 North Avenue NW
Atlanta, GA 30332-0410

Doug Boles
Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games
250 Williams Street
Suite 6000
P.O. Box 1996
Atlanta, GA 30301-1996

Special Agent in Charge
David W. Johnson, Jr.
Federal Bureau of Investigation
2635 Century Parkway
Suite 400
Atlanta, GA 30345

James C. Hardeman, Jr.
Manager
Environmental Radiation Program
4244 International Parkway, Suite 114
Atlanta, GA 30354

Steven F. Schildecker
Executive Assistant to the Director
c/o David Moffet, Jr.
Chief of Radiological Programs
Georgia Emergency Management Agency
P.O. Box 18055
Atlanta, GA 30316-0055

Mr. Buddy McDermott
Georgia State Patrol
959 Confederate Avenue
Atlanta, GA 30371