

November 19, 1992

Docket No. 50-62

Dr. Robert U. Mulder, Director
University of Virginia Reactor Facility
Department of Mechanical, Aerospace
and Nuclear Engineering
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903-2442

Dear Dr. Mulder:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (TAC NO. M82824)

We are continuing our review of your application for conversion to low enriched uranium fuel for Facility Operating License No. R-66 for the University of Virginia Pool Research Reactor which you submitted on November 9, 1989. During our review of your application, questions have arisen for which we require additional information and clarification. Please provide responses to the enclosed Request for Additional Information within 30 days of the date of this letter. Following receipt of the additional information, we will continue our evaluation of your application. If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact me at (301) 504-1127.

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.30(b), your response must be executed in a signed original under oath or affirmation.

This requirement affects nine or fewer respondents and, therefore, is not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under P. L. 96-511.

Sincerely,

- original signed by -
Alexander Adams, Jr., Sr. Project Manager
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning
Project Directorate
Division of Operating Reactor Support
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Alexander Adams, Jr.".

Alexander Adams, Jr., Sr. Project Manager
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning
Project Directorate
Division of Operating Reactor Support
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

University of Virginia

Docket Nos. 50-62/396

cc:

Commonwealth of Virginia
Council on the Environment
903 Ninth Street Office Bldg.
Richmond, Virginia 23219

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101 North 8th Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Bureau of Radiological Health
Division of Health Hazards Control
109 Governor Street, Room 916
Richmond, Virginia 23219

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA POOL REACTOR
DOCKET NO. 50-62

1. The requirement to convert is dependent on government funding of the conversion including the cost of replacement fuel. Please submit documentation that shows that government funding is available for your conversion.
2. Please propose and justify special nuclear material possession limits for your amended license. Include the total limit on uranium-235, the amount of uranium-235 of enrichment less than 20% in the form of MTR-type reactor fuel to be possessed, and any other forms and enrichment required to operate the reactor such as fission chambers or flux foils that were possessed under the high enriched uranium license. Please note that your possession limit for plutonium in the form of a start up source will be carried over into the amended license.
3. You have proposed changing a number of Technical Specification: (TS) as part of your reactor conversion. It is important to note that the staff did not review your entire LEU Safety Analysis Report (SAR). Only sections related to your conversion were reviewed. Therefore, the basis for some of your TS continues to be the original SAR and this should be referenced in the TS. These include TS 3.4, 3.5, 3.7, and 5.2. These TS will not be amended as part of the conversion order. In addition, you proposed a change to TS 3.4. This change should be submitted under the normal license amendment process.
4. In basis 1 of TS 3.1 you amended the wording to discuss sticking of the highest worth control rod. Should this be shim rod to match the specification?
5. In TS 3.6(8) the word any was removed from the specification. If this is not a typographical error, this change should be made by the normal license amendment process. In TS 3.6(10) the word safe was changed to safety. This appears to be a typographic error. Please correct.
6. You proposed removing TS 3.8 as part of the conversion process. This TS should remain until all high enriched uranium (HEU) fuel is removed from the facility. Please reword this TS so that it remains in force only until all HEU fuel leaves the facility. This reworded TS will become part of the conversion order. Because this TS will remain, the changes to TS 3.9 need not be made.
7. More detail is needed in TS 5.1. As a minimum, a reference should be made to make it clear what fuel type is approved by NRC. We would not object to a specification similar to the existing 5.1 that is reworded to describe the low enriched uranium (LEU) fuel.
8. In TS 6.4.2, reportable occurrence action to be taken 3, the reference to section 6.7 of the TS has been changed to section 6.6. Is this to correct a typographical error?