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20 August 1996

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II Administrator
101 Marietta Street, N.W.
Atlanta, GA 30323

Subject: Notification of a licensee identified surveillance non-compliance in accordance with the PULSTAR Facility Technical Specification 6.7.2 (c)

Docket No.: 50-297
License No.: R-120

Dear Sir:

The PULSTAR reactor staff routinely conducts self assessments of reactor facility operations and results of surveillance tests and inspections. A recent review of surveillance records discovered the surveillance frequency specified in the Technical Specification Section 4.4 was not met on three separate occasions in 1994. This information was reported to Region II on 15 August 1996 by telephone.

A self assessment effort performed during the week of 7 August 1996 showed the weekly surveillance of the radiation monitoring system setpoints was not performed on 23 January, 6 March, and 3 April 1994. The interval between setpoint verifications were, at the most, 15 days. This interval exceeds the weekly (a time period not to exceed 10 days) requirement as specified in Technical Specifications Section 4.4. The reason for this non-compliance was management oversight.

The setpoints were verified to be correct on the subsequent surveillance interval for all three reported time periods. In fact, the setpoints on the new radiation monitoring system (installed in 1993) have never drifted to date. As a result, the radiation monitoring system was operational during the three dates referenced.

The Reactor Health Physicists instituted in July 1994 a tracking system for health physics related surveillances. The tracking system was implemented following an NRC inspection (No. 50-297/94-01). In addition, the health physics related surveillances will be added to the PULSTAR surveillance tracking system.

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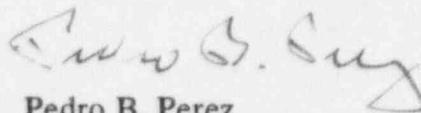
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (2)
Administrator, Region II

20 August 1996

Should you or your staff have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at (919) 515-4602.

Sincerely yours,



Pedro B. Perez
Associate Director,
Nuclear Reactor Program

cc: USNRC Document Control Desk
Mr. Al Adams, Jr., USNRC
Mr. Craig Bassett, USNRC, Region II
Dr. Charles W. Mayo, Chairman, Reactor Safety and Audit Committee
Dr. David DeMaster, Chairman, Radiation Protection Committee
Mr. Gerald D. Wicks, CHP, Reactor Health Physicist