

DEC 10 1992

Docket No. 50-160
License No. R-97

Georgia Institute of Technology
ATTN: Dr. Ratib A. Karam, Director
Neely Nuclear Research Center
225 North Avenue
Atlanta, GA 30332

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION
(NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-160/92-04)

This refers to the inspection conducted by J. L. Kreh of this office on November 9-10, 1992. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your Neely Nuclear Research Center. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). This Notice describes a repeat of a noncited violation discussed in NRC Inspection Report No. 50-160/91-04. Recurring violations are of particular concern because the NRC expects licensees to learn from their past violations and to take effective corrective actions. In this specific case, Dr. Karam stated that the corrective action was taken before the inspection report was issued based on his understanding of the exit discussion. We suggest that this and future inspection reports receive a comprehensive review to assure that any inspection issues are clearly understood.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96-511.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact us.

Sincerely,

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J. Philip Stohr, Director
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report

cc w/encls:

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cc w/encls: (Cont'd on page 3)

Georgia Institute of Technology

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bcc w/encls:
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RII:DRSS

JKreh

12/6/92

RII:DRSS

KBarr

12/8/92

RII:DRSS

CBassett

12/7/92

RII:DRSS

WCline

12/8/92

RII:DRSS

GJenkins

12/8/92

RII:HQ

SWeiss

12/7/92

per telecon
on 12/7
with
MMH