

COLLEGE
OF
ENGINEERING

REPLY TO
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

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DEPARTMENT OF NUCLEAR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

September 15, 1978

Mr. W.B. Kenna, Chief
Safeguards Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Branch
Region II
701 Marietta Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: RII:DEM
50-83/78-05

Gentlemen:

In compliance with 10CFR2.201, we respectfully submit the following statement of explanation in response to the notice of violation resulting from the August 16-17 Physical Security Inspection of the UFTR.

Incident:

Contrary to the UFTR Security Plan, a reactor key was inserted in the console without an operator present. The reactor was shutdown and the cell was secured.

This incident was a rare (if not unique) occurrence. The probable cause was that the RO performing the daily checkout was called away from the console when he was finishing the tests.

Corrective Steps Taken:

The incident was discussed and analyzed with the Reactor staff. Its importance and the need to prevent recurrence emphasized. Steps to maintain the reactor key secured were analyzed and procedural change decided on.

Corrective Steps Which will be taken to avoid further non-compliance:

The analysis of the incident revealed that both the daily checkout procedure (and checkout list) and the reactor shutdown procedure are not specific enough with regards to securing the reactor key, in accordance to the Physical Protection Plan. Both the daily checkout procedure and the reactor shutdown procedure shall be corrected to require securing of the reactor key at the end of the procedure. Since no other related weakness was revealed in the analysis of the incident, we have reasonable assurance these changes will prevent recurrence.

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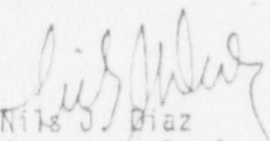
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Date when full compliance will be achieved:

Compliance with the above commitment shall be achieved by September 29, 1978.

Please let us know if further information is required.


Sincerely yours,


Nils J. Diaz
Associate Professor &
Director of Nuclear Facilities

NJD/jcb

cc: Dr. G.R. Dalton, Chairman
UFTR Subcommittee

APPROVED:



M.J. Ohanian, Chairman
Department of Nuclear Engineering
Sciences