

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE CHARLOTTESVILLE, 22901

DEPARTMENT OF NUCLEAR ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING PHYSICS REACTOR FACILITY

TELEPHONE: 804-924-7136

December 18, 1978

Director Reactor Licensing U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

> Mr. Robert W. Reid, Chief Operating Reactor Branch #4

RE: License No. R-66 Docket No. 50-62

Dear Sir:

This letter requests approval of an amendment to our Facility Operating License R-66 Docket 50-62 to allow us to receive, possess and use neptunium 237.

Specifically we request that section 2.B.3 of license R-66 be revised to state:

Pursuant to the Act and 10 CFR Part 30, "Rules of General Applicability to Licensing of Byproduct Material" to receive, possess, store and use in the reactor pool 70,000 curies of Cobalt-60, to receive, use and possess 1.0 gram of neptunium 237, and to possess, but not separate, such byproduct materials as may be produced by operation of the reactor.

The purpose of this amendment is to add neptunium 237 to the license. Neptunium 237 is a fast neutron fluence monitor and will be used in the form of fission foils in various experiments. The application in each experiment will be reviewed by the reactor safety committee to assure the health and safety of the public.

Your early response to this request would be appreciated to allow us to receive neptunium-237 in doubly sealed capsules from Westinghouse. This material will be used for neutron dosimetry in an irradiation test of pressure vessel steels which we are conducting for the Electric Power Research Institute and Westinghouse. This application of the foil materials is being reviewed by the reactor safety committee.

Sincerely.

Tow Hams

T. G. Williamson, Director Reactor Facility

Sworn to and subscribed before me this / gla

day of December

Witness my hand and official seal,

A. B. Reynolds 7 8 1 2 2 0 0 2 2 1 Embossed Hereon is My Albemarie County, Va., Notary Public Seal My Commission Expires January 21, 1979 LENA R. THORNE

cc: Messrs. J. P. Farrar

TGW/1t

B. L. Shriver