

MAR 17 1988

In Reply Refer To:  
Docket: 50-128/CAL 88-03

Dr. Herbert H. Richardson, Director  
Texas Engineering Experiment Station  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, Texas 77843

Dear Dr. Richardson:

SUBJECT: CONFIRMATION OF ACTION LETTER

This is to confirm the conversation between Dr. John W. Poston, Texas A&M University (TAMU) and Messrs. L. A. Yandell, B. Murray, and H. D. Chaney, US NRC, Region IV on March 16, 1988. Based on our conversation, it is my understanding that TAMU is taking the following actions in regard to the concerns raised by the NRC inspector during a March 6-9, 1988, inspection.

1. The Nuclear Science Center (NSC) Reactor Safety Committee will perform a detailed review of the neutron diffraction studies being conducted by Dr. J. A. Reuscher at the NSC with the TRIGA reactor. This will be completed prior to resumption of Dr. Reuscher's neutron diffraction study. This review should verify compliance with Facility Technical Specification and facility Standard Operating Procedure requirements, and ensure that appropriate dose reduction techniques (including health physics surveillance requirements) are incorporated into the experiment.
2. The Radiation Safety Office will conduct a review of the high radiation area control procedures/practices used at the NSC for compliance with the requirements of 10 CFR Part 20.203(c). This review should evaluate controls over individual high radiation areas that are located within larger controlled areas, such as beam port work within the basement portion of the NSC.
3. Complete and issue by April 1, 1988, the results of your investigation into the possible overexposure of Dr. J. A. Reuscher that occurred during the fourth calendar quarter of 1987 while conducting neutron diffraction studies at the NSC.

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RIV:FRPS:RPSB  
HChaney/jt  
3/17/88

C:FRPS:RPSB  
BMurray  
3/17/88

C:RPSB  
LAYandell  
3/17/88

D:DRSS  
RLBangart  
03/17/88

AEB  
HLScott  
3/17/88

RA  
RDMartin  
3/17/88

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Issuance of this confirmatory action letter does not preclude the issuance of an order formalizing the above commitments. If your understanding differs from that set forth above, please call me immediately.

Sincerely,

*for John M. Montgomery*  
Robert D. Martin  
Regional Administrator

cc:

F. E. Vandiver, President  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, Texas 77843

M. E. McLain  
Radiation Safety Officer  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, Texas 77843

Mr. Feenan Jennings, Chairman  
Reactor Safety Board  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, Texas 77843

Mr. Donald E. Feltz, Director  
Nuclear Science Center  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, Texas 77843

Texas A&M University  
ATTN: Dr. John W. Poston  
Nuclear Engineering Department  
College Station, Texas 77843

Texas State Department of Health  
1100 W. 49th Street  
Austin, Texas 78756

Texas Bureau of Radiation Control  
ATTN: C. Dittman, Region 6  
1100 W. 49th Street  
Austin, Texas 78756

bcc:

OMB IE 36

J. M. Taylor, DEDRO

J. L. Lieberman, D/OE

L. J. Chandler, Asst. GC/OGC

H. L. Thompson, D/NMSS

T. E. Murley, D/NRR

L. J. Callan, D/DRP

J. M. Milhoan, D/DRS

R. L. Bangart, D/DRSS

H. L. Scott, AEO

J. Carson, RA Sect'y

L. A. Yandell

B. Murray

H. D. Chaney

RIV File

RPSB