

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF NUCLEAR ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING PHYSICS NUCLEAR REACTOR FACILITY

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22901

March 25, 1987

Telephone: 804-924-7136

Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington D.C. 20555 Attn: Mr. Thomas E. Murley

Re: LEU Fuel Conversion Schedule Proposal for the University of Virginia's 2 MWth UVAR reactor, Facility License R-66, Docket No. 50-62

Dar Sir,

Please find enclosed the Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) Fuel Conversion Schedule Proposal for the University of Virginia's 2 MW UVAR research reactor, submitted to the NRC to meet the requirements of 10 CFR 50.64(c)(2), and implement the HEU-LEU conversion rule.

DOE funded the first year of a conversion study for the 100 W CAVALIER reactor (the low-power version of the UVAR), beginning in September, 1986 (Grant No. DE-FG05-86 ER 75273). However, the licensee decided to forego conversion of the CAVALIER reactor on February 27, 1987 and instead submit a dismantlement plan for the CAVALIER reactor to the NRC. The dismantlement plan was submitted at the start of 1988 and an NRC decision is pending. The licensee has applied the grant funding for the CAVALIER reactor to the conversion study for the UVAR, with DOE agreement. The "second" year of the conversion study for the UVAR has been funded under Grant No. DE-FG05-88 ER 75388.

The present DOE schedule for availability of LEU fuel elements for the UVAR reactor is October, 1988. The tentative U. Virginia conversion schedule provided in this plan could be affected if this date slips. The licensee's schedule is also dependent on the date of NRC's order to convert and the HEU spent fuel shipment dates.

Sincerely

My Commission Expires 9/17/99.

Robert U. Mulder, Director U.Va. Nuclear Reactor Facility

CC: Mr. Al Adams, NRC Project Manager for U.Va., Wash. D.C. Regional Administrator, USNRC Region II, Atlanta, Georgia Mr. Paul E. Fredrickson, Div. Reactor Proj., Atlanta, Ga. Mr. Keith Brown, Div. University Programs, DOE A020