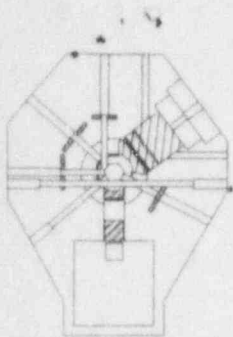


Radiation Science Laboratory
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Department of Nuclear Engineering / College of Engineering

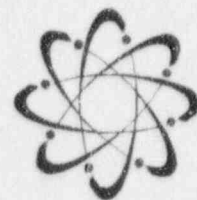


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April 15, 1997
Docket No. 50-356

Mr. Alexander Adams, Jr.
United States Nuclear Regulatory
Commission
M.S. 11-B-20
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Sir,

This letter is to inform you that the University of Illinois has completed decommissioning of the LOPRA reactor (R-117) in accordance with Amendment number 6 issued January 21, 1997.

In light of the decommissioning of the LOPRA reactor, the University of Illinois withdraws the request for renewal of the operating license for the LOPRA reactor.

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.12 (a) (2) (ii) the University of Illinois requests an exemption from 10 CFR 50.82 (b) (6) (ii) which requires a terminal radiation survey. 10 CFR 50.12 (a) (2) (ii) states that the Commission may grant an exemption where "*Application of the regulation in the particular circumstances would not serve the underlying purpose of the rule or is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule...*" 10 CFR 50.82 (b) (6) (ii) requires a terminal radiation survey in order to demonstrate that the facility and site are suitable for release upon termination of the license. This requirement is inappropriate for decommissioning of the LOPRA reactor as there is no site being released for unrestricted use and an exemption is requested for the following reasons:

- The LOPRA reactor is a part of the Nuclear Reactor Laboratory that also contains the Advanced TRIGA reactor (license R-115) that will remain operational, therefore the site will not be released for unrestricted use.
- No area within the facility that is occupied by the LOPRA will be released for unrestricted use. The radioactive components and fuel that comprise the LOPRA have been transferred to the Advanced TRIGA license and will be maintained for the capability to construct and operate a subcritical assembly.
- The Nuclear Reactor Laboratory that housed the LOPRA will remain subject to the license for the Advanced TRIGA after termination of the LOPRA license and therefore a terminal radiation survey is not required.

If there are any questions concerning this request please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Holm
Reactor Administrator

c: B. Jones
Regional Administrator, USNRC, Region III

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