In Reply Refer To: Dockets: 50-192/88-02 50-602/88-02

University of Texas
College of Engineering
Department of Mechanical Engineering
Nuclear Engineering Program
ATTN: Dale E. Klein, Director
Nuclear Engineering Laboratory
Austin, Texas 78712

Gentlemen:

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. H. D. Chaney of this office during the period March 9-11, 1988, of the activities authorized by NRC Operating License R-92 and Construction Permit CPPR-123 for the University of Texas TRIGA Mark I and II research reactors, and to the discussion of our findings with Dr. R. W. Miksad and other members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

Freas examined during the inspection included the radiation protection, emergency planning, nuclear material safeguards, and the physical security programs. The inspection also included a review of proposed radiation protection program and facilities associated with the TRIGA Mark II reactor being constructed at the Balcones Research Center. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examination of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the NRC inspector. The inspection findings are documented in the enclosed inspection report.

Within the scope of the inspection, no violations or deviations were identified. However, we are concerned about the apparent lack of adequate personnel resources and health physics support being provided for the Mark I reactor defueling and decommissioning, fuel transfer, and preoperational testing and startup of the Mark II reactor. Accordingly, you are requested to respond, in writing, within 60 days of the date of this letter, outlining steps taken to ensure that adequate staffing will be available to develop radiation protection procedures, conduct radiological training, and provide health physics oversight of work activities involving radiological controls associated with these projects.

The response directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice is not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

RIV: FRPS HDChaney/tw

AC: FRP9 REBaer 4 /24/88 C: RPSB P BMurray C: OPS: BRS C: 040/B: DRP JEGagliardo 4/20/4/21/88

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Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By A. B. Beach

L. J. Callan, Director Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosure: Appendix - NRC Inspection Report 50-192/88-02 50-602/88-02

cc w/enclosure:
University of Texas
College of Engineering
Department of Mechanical Engineering
Nuclear Engineering Program
ATTN: Tom L. Bauer, Supervisor
Reactor Operations
Nuclear Reactor Laboratories
Austin, Texas 78712

Texas Radiation Control Director

DMB - IE-01

bcc:
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*DRP
*RIV File
*RSTS Operator
R. L. Bangart, DRSS
*RPSB-DRSS
*TSS
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Inspector(s)
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Lisa Shea, RM/ALF
*MIS Coordinator
*C:FRPS
*R. Hall-DRSS
H. Scott, Acting E0
*J. E. Gagliardo

*w/766