

September 17, 1998

Dr. Dennis Smith, Executive Chancellor
Department of Chemistry
University of California
Irvine, California 92717

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (TAC NO. M3551)

Dear Dr. Smith:

We are continuing our review of your August 24, 1998, related to changes to the University of California, Irvine TRIGA Research Reactor Technical Specifications for surveillances during shutdown conditions. During our review, questions have arisen for which we require additional information and clarification. Please provide responses to the enclosed request for additional information within 60 days of the date of this letter. In accordance with 10 CFR 50.30(b), your response must be executed in a signed original under oath or affirmation. This request affects nine or fewer respondents, and therefore, is not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under P.L. 96-511. Following receipt of the additional information, we will continue our evaluation of your application.

If there should be any questions regarding this review, please contact me at (301) 415-1128.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:
Marvin M. Mendonca, Senior Project Manager
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning
Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-326
Enclosure: As stated
cc: See next page

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Sincerely,

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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If there should be any questions regarding this review, please contact me at (301) 415-1128.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Marvin M. Mendonca", is written over a horizontal line.

Marvin M. Mendonca, Senior Project Manager
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning
Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-326

Enclosure: As stated

cc: See next page

University of California at Irvine

Docket No. 50-326

cc:

Mr. Steve Hsu
Radiologic Health Branch
State Department of Health Service
P.O. Box 9442732
Sacramento, California 94234-7320

Dr. George E. Miller
Department of Chemistry
516 Physical Sciences 1
University of California, Irvine
Irvine, California 92697-2025

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE RESEARCH REACTOR

DOCKET NO. 50-326

1. To ensure no misinterpretation of which surveillances are required during shutdown conditions, please propose a change to the phrase "except those specifically required for safety when the reactor is shutdown." The proposed change should specify the surveillances that are not applicable during shutdowns (e.g., except Technical Specification Surveillances 4.x, 4.y, and 4.z).
2. Again, to reduce potential misinterpretation, provide the specifications that cannot be performed with the reactor operating. A potential way to do that would be to change the last sentence of proposed Technical Specification 1.27 to: Surveillance activities scheduled to occur during an operating cycle which cannot be performed with reactor operating (i.e., 4.x, 4.y, and 4.z) may be deferred to the end of the cycle.
3. Also, an update of some specifications should be provided (e.g., on 6.4 and 6.5.c to change "AEC" to "NRC"). Another example is specification 6.7 on reporting requirements. Specifically, the specifications should be modified to match current guidance ("Guidelines for Preparing and Reviewing Applications for the Licensing of Non-Power Reactors," NUREG 1537). This guidance on written reports is to send them to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555. On telephone reports, the guidance is to call the NRC Operations Center at (301) 816-5100.
4. For each proposed change, provide a copy of the complete Technical Specification page with the change area designated by change bars in the page margin. Alternatively, a copy of the entire Technical Specifications with changes marked by change bars could be provided.