

25 September 1998

Mr. Theodore S. Michaels
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Mail Stop 11B20
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Department of Mechanical and
Nuclear Engineering
302 Rathbone Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506-5204
785-532-5610
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Mr. Michaels:


This letter requests an amendment to license R-88 for the Kansas State University TRIGA Mark II nuclear reactor (Docket 50-188). The requested change regards Technical Specification H.2, regarding the composition of the Reactor Safeguards Committee. The proposed change is to replace the title of the chairman, "Nuclear Engineering Program Director", with the title "Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering Department Head."

On 22 September 1998, I was notified that the aforementioned Director position was being discontinued. A letter from the Department Head detailing this change is attached. In discontinuing the position, the Department Head agrees to assume the responsibilities of the former position and participate in the requisite 10CFR19 radiation safety training to allow unescorted access to the facility. A meeting of the Reactor Safeguards Committee was held on 24 September 1998, during which no concerns with this change were raised.

The Department Head has historically held the Reactor Safeguards Committee Chairman position. When the merger of the Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering Departments occurred, the Nuclear Engineering Program Director position was created. However, this position is being removed to ensure a full integration of the faculty. Therefore, the composition of the committee is reverting back to its status prior to Amendment 10 on 30 October 1996. The radiation safety training is to be conducted to ensure that the implicit requirement of a nuclear background for committee members is maintained.

Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions that arise regarding this change.

Sincerely,



Brendan C. Ryan, Manager
KSU Nuclear Reactor Facility

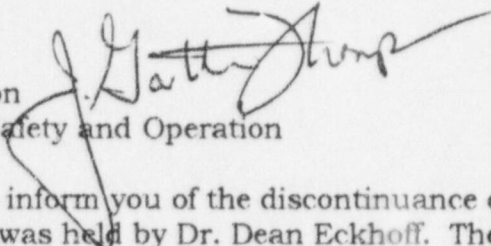
Encl: Garth Thompson Letter, dated 18 September 1998.
Cc: Document Control Desk
Safeguards File
Garth Thompson, Department Head

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September 18, 1998

TO: Brendan Ryan
FROM: J. Garth Thompson
RE: Nuclear Reactor Safety and Operation



Brendan, this letter is to inform you of the discontinuance of the Nuclear Engineering Program Director position that was held by Dr. Dean Eckhoff. The attached memo explains the plan which I have implemented to complete the integration of the Nuclear Engineering Program into the Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering Department and the vitalization of the Nuclear Engineering Option and the revitalization of the Nuclear Engineering graduate and research programs. I will carry out the duties of the Nuclear Engineering Program Director position including Chair of the Reactor Safeguards Committee while the committee is developing the plan. Would you please provide copies of the attached memo to the members of the Reactor Safeguards Committee?

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