

Dr. George Hedge  
Vice Provost for Research  
Washington State University  
Pullman, WA 99164-1030

September 25, 1998

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-027/98-201

Dear Dr. Hedge:

A United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) inspection was conducted from September 8-10, 1998, at your Washington State University TRIGA Reactor at the Nuclear Radiation Center. The enclosed report represents the results of that inspection.

Although, no immediate safety significant items were found, reactor systems requiring maintenance, repair, or replacement were observed. These were the reactor cooling tower and heat exchanger, the reactor pool liner, and the reactor pool concrete tank. Repair/maintenance on the concrete tank was ongoing at the time of this inspection and the Facilities Development Acting Assistant Director confirmed that replacement of the cooling tower had already been funded. Additionally, your staff were evaluating the replacement of the pool liner and the repair or replacement of the heat exchanger. Your reactor and Facilities Development staffs stated that they would keep the NRC staff updated on the progress of these actions. No specific reply is required.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Symour H. Weiss, Director  
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning  
Project Directorate  
Division of Reactor Program Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-027  
License No. R-76

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report No. 50-027/98-201

cc w/enclosure:  
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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Seymour H. Weiss".

Seymour H. Weiss, Director  
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning  
Project Directorate  
Division of Reactor Program Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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cc:

Dr. Howard Miles  
Chair, Reactor Safeguards Committee, Nuclear Radiation Center  
Washington State University  
P.O. Box 641300  
Pullman, WA 99164 - 1300

Jerry Neidiger  
Reactor Supervisor, Nuclear Radiation Center  
Washington State University  
P.O. Box 641300  
Pullman, WA 99164 - 1300

Dr. Len Porter  
Director, Radiation Safety Office  
Washington State University  
P.O. Box 641302  
Pullman, WA 99164 - 1302

Dr. Gerald Tripard  
Director, Nuclear Radiation Center  
Washington State University  
P.O. Box 641300  
Pullman, WA 99164 - 1300

Dr. William G. Vernetson  
Director of Nuclear Facilities  
Department of Nuclear Engineering  
Sciences  
University of Florida  
202 Nuclear Sciences Center  
Gainesville, FL 32611