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Docket No. 50-116

September 28, 1998

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Preliminary Decommissioning Plan for the UTR-10 Reactor Facility

Dear Sir:

Iowa State University (ISU) has chosen the DECON decommissioning alternative and will proceed with dismantling the UTR-10 reactor as soon as possible. Duke Engineering and Services has been selected to provide "turn key" decommissioning services for the UTR-10 reactor. A fixed price agreement between ISU and Duke was entered into on July 29, 1998. The total cost for the decommissioning in 1998 dollars, including disposal, is $874,257; a 4% annual escalation factor has been built into the agreement.

The last criticality at the UTR-10 reactor facility occurred on May 8, 1998 with reactor operations officially ceasing a week later on May 15. Since that time the reactor has been de-fueled and the primary coolant released in accordance with NRC requirements. Duke completed the two-week, on-site characterization of the facility on September 25, 1998. After the data that was collected has been analyzed, Duke will prepare and submit a characterization report to ISU.

The Decommissioning Plan (DP) will be completed by Duke in December 1998 and submitted to the NRC for review shortly thereafter. The reactor fuel is currently scheduled for shipment to the DOE's Savannah River Site during the summer of 1999. Decommissioning activities will commence following NRC approval of the DP and the shipment of the reactor fuel.

Duke has selected NSC Energy Services to carry out the demolition of the reactor. The proposed sequence of demolition will be to remove all reactor components first; the concrete bio-shield will be demolished last. All radioactive components and rubble will be segregated from the waste stream for packaging and disposal at Envirocare of Utah, Inc. Free-releasable material will be disposed of locally.

The initial characterization surveys were conducted according to the guidance provided in the MARSSIM. The same guidance will be used for the final surveys as well. Preliminary characterization results indicate that the total effective dose equivalent to any member of the critical group will be far below the 25 mrem per year limit.

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Questions may be directed to me during normal working hours at (515) 294-0539.

Sincerely,

Scott E. Wendt
Reactor Manager

Enclosure

c: (without enclosures)
D.B. Bullen, Facility Director
W.R. DeVries, Chm., Mechanical Engineering Department