UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI RESEARCH REACTOR

OPERATIONS MONTHLY SUMMARY

50-186

JULY 1998

Prepared by:

Operations Staff

SEP 0 1 1998

The reactor operated continuously in July with the following exceptions: four shutdowns for scheduled maintenance and refueling. There were no unscheduled shutdowns this month.

During the July 6th maintenance day shutdown, operators discovered a sample loading height discrepancy in the flux trap sample holder. One of the three tubes of the flux trap sample holder had one inch of unoccupied volume. This was considered to be a violation of Technical Specification 3.6.e concerning the operation of the reactor with a subpart of an experiment not rigidly held in place. This error was discovered to have occurred during the loading of the flux trap on the previous maintenance day (June 30) and was due to a loading sheet error which listed a sample as being 3 inches long when in fact it was 2 inches long. The circumstances and remediation of this event are described in a license event report submitted to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission on August 6, 1998.

Other activities: A series of subcriticality measurements were done using fresh and spent MURR fuel elements. These measurements were conducted by personnel from Westinghouse (Savannah River Site) and Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Fresh fuel measurements were done in a water tank outside the reactor pool and spent fuel measurements were done in the weir area of the pool. Westinghouse experimenters are trying to benchmark reactivity predictions from code calculations with these measurements.

OPERATIONS SUMMARY

HOURS OPERATED THIS PERIOD	669
TOTAL HOURS OPERATED	213,274
HOURS AT FULL POWER THIS PERIOD	667
TOTAL HOURS AT FULL POWER	210,170
INTEGRATED POWER THIS PERIOD	278 MWD
TOTAL INTEGRATED POWER	81,723 MWD

MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

07/06/98	Refueled - removed core 98-33, loaded core 98-34.
07/13/98	Refueled - removed core 98-34 loaded core 98-35.
07/20/98	Refueled - removed core 98-35, loaded core 98-36.
07/27/98	Refueled - removed core 98-36, loaded core 98-37.