

In Reply Refer To:
Docket: 50-128/CAL 86-05

MAY 7 1986

Texas A&M University
ATTN: Dr. Herbert H. Richardson, Director
Texas Engineering Experiment Station
301 Engineering Research Center
College Station, Texas 77843

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: CONFIRMATION OF ACTION LETTER

This is to confirm the conversation between Mr. D. E. Feltz, Texas A&M University, and Mr. G. L. Constable, USNRC, Region IV, on May 5, 1986, with regard to the reactivity excursion event that occurred at your TRIGA facility on May 1, 1986. Based on their conversation, it is my understanding that Texas A&M University is taking the following actions with respect to the operation of the TRIGA (1 MW).

1. In no case will an experiment with a reactivity value of greater than \$.30 be removed from the reactor while the reactor is critical.
2. The reactor operations staff will be retrained in the following areas by May 13, 1986:
 - a. reactivity measurement techniques
 - b. logs, recordkeeping, procedural and technical specification requirements related to experiments
3. Procedures for determining experiment worth will be reviewed to ensure that they are adequate and explicit. Training on procedural changes will be conducted as in item 2, above.

Please be prepared to discuss the results of your reviews and to confirm completion of training at an enforcement conference to be held in the NRC Region IV office in the near future.

CERTIFIED MAIL- RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RIV:PS-C
GLConstable:jc
5/7/86

RPB
JEGagliardo
5/7/86

DRSP
EHJohnson
5/7/86

EO
DAPowers
5/7/86

RM
RDMartin
5/7/86

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PDR ADOCK 05000128
S PDR

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MAY 7 1986

If your understanding of the above is different, please notify me immediately.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
Paul S. Check

for Robert D. Martin
Regional Administrator

cc:
Donald E. Feltz, Director
Nuclear Science Center
F. E. Box 89
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843

Dr. K. L. Peddicord, Head
Nuclear Engineering Department
Office of University Research
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843

F. Jennings, Chairman
Reactor Safety Board
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843

bcc:
DMB (IE36)
R. D. Martin, RA
E. Johnson, D/DRSP
R. Bangart, D/DRSS
D. Powers, EO
D. Tondi, NRR
J. Axelrad, D/ES:IE
Secretary, ES:IE
Secretary, RA:RIV