

June 10, 1988

Docket No. 50-128

Mr. Donald E. Feltz, Director
Nuclear Science Center
Texas A & M University
College Station, Texas 77843-3575

Dear Mr. Feltz:

SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION OF MEANING OF EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS

In regard to your request of May 26, 1988 for clarification of the term explosive materials, we consider the term explosive materials, as used in your Technical Specifications (TS), Section 3.6.2(a), to mean Class A explosives as defined by the U.S. Department of Transportation (49 CFR Chapter I). That is, explosive material as used in your TS means explosives which possess, detonate, or otherwise contain maximum hazard; such as dynamite, nitroglycerine, picric acid, lead azide, fulminate of mercury, black powder, blasting caps and detonating primers.

As required by your TS in Section 4.6, however, experiments must be reviewed to assure that material being placed in the reactor and its experimental facilities does not cause damage or causes to be released excessive amounts of radioactive materials as a result of failure. Therefore, material not identified as Class A explosives, which could explode or ignite under certain conditions, must be reviewed in accordance with this section when being placed in the reactor and its experimental facilities.

Sincerely,

original signed by
Theodore S. Michaels, Project Manager
Standardization and Non-Power
Reactor Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Projects III,
IV, V and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Theodore S. Michaels".

Theodore S. Michaels, Project Manager
Standardization and Non-Power
Reactor Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Projects III,
IV, V and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Texas A&M University

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cc: Mayor, City of College Station
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