

February 24, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Douglas M. Collins, Chief  
Emergency Preparedness and  
Radiological Protection Branch  
Division of Radiation Safety  
and Safeguards, RII

FROM: Theodore S. Michaels, Project Manager  
Standardization and Non-Power  
Reactor Project Directorate  
Division of Reactor Projects III, IV,  
V and Special Projects, NRR

SUBJECT: TERMINATION SURVEY OF THE VIRGINIA POLYTECH INSTITUTE FINAL  
REPORT ON DECOMMISSIONING, LICENSE NO. R-62, DOCKET NO. 50-124

As a follow-up to your memorandum of February 2, 1984, same subject as above, the following actions have occurred.

- Virginia Tech has been given authority to use the reactor building in an unrestricted mode (see letter of February 17, 1988, T. Michaels to A. K. Furr).
- Virginia Tech separated certain concrete blocks in the university landfill, and made radiation measurements which show that the release criteria are not exceeded (see letter of February 5, 1988 D. Smiley to T. Michaels). The Radiation Protection Branch (PRPB) of NRR has reviewed this letter and, subject to confirmation of the readings indicated, would agree that these data would be acceptable for release of the university landfill in this decommissioning action.

Therefore, please schedule a survey of the Virginia Tech university landfill at your earliest convenience in order that we may proceed with the termination of this license. If you have any questions please call me at 492-1102.

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, NRR

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PDR

Enclosures:

Letter 2/17/88, T. Michaels to A. K. Furr  
Letter 2/5/88, D. Smiley to T. Michaels

CONTACT:

T. Michaels, NRR/PDSNP  
Ext. 21102

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

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*Theodore S. Michaels*  
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Ext. 21102



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

February 17, 1988

Docket No. 50-124

Dr. Keith Furr, Director  
Nuclear Laboratory  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute  
and State University  
Room 108 Robeson  
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

Dear Dr. Furr:

SUBJECT: RELEASE OF REACTOR BUILDING FOR UNRESTRICTED USE - VIRGINIA  
POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE REACTOR FACILITY

The NRC staff has reviewed the dismantling of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute Reactor Facility in accordance with your request of July 17, 1986 for a termination of the license facility. The staff has found that the reactor building can be released for unrestricted use since the residual contamination levels for the reactor building comply with Table 1, Regulatory Guide 1.86 and an exposure limit of 5 micro R/hr, above background at one meter.

The Confirmatory Radiological Survey report presented to the staff, however, indicates that the burial of waste material having radioactive contamination below established unrestricted release limits from the reactor facility appears to have resulted in elevated radionuclide concentrations in soil and in elevated exposure levels at the university landfill. We understand from a letter dated February 5, 1988 (D. Smiley to T. Michaels) that you have rearranged the landfill to bring the radionuclide concentrations in the soil to within acceptable limits. However, before we can release the total facility for unrestricted use, another radiological survey will have to be taken by the staff to confirm your results.

In the interim, you can use the reactor building in an unrestricted mode but you are still subject to your reactor license until such time as the landfill can be released with a consequent order which would terminate your license.

Sincerely,

*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

cc: See next page

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