NOTICE OF VIOLATION

University of Missouri - Columbia University of Missouri Research Reactor

Docket No. 50-186 License No. R-103

During an NRC inspection conducted on June 7-11, 1999, a violation of NRC requirements was identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," NUREG-1600, the violation is listed below:

Technical Specification 3.4.a requires that the reactor bridge area radiation monitor (ARM) be operable anytime the reactor is operated. Foot note 2 of that requirement permits temporarily setting the scram and building isolation setpoint at a higher level during maintenance and sample handling. The licensee's Standard Operating Procedure, SOP - III, "Reactor Control and Instrumentation System," Revision 7/29/93, Section III.9, requires that the setpoint be returned to the normal range when sample handling is finished.

Contrary to the above, on Monday, June 7, 1999, following maintenance and sample loading completion, final reactor precritical checks, and reactor startup to critical, the reactor bridge ARM remained in the high range position. This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement I).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, the University of Missouri - Columbia is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, DC 20555 with a copy to the cognizant inspector, Region III, within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation (Notice). This reply should be clearly marked as a "Reply to a Notice of Violation" and should include for each violation: (1) the reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation or severity level, (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Your response may reference or include previous docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. If an adequate reply is not received within the time specified in this Notice, an order or a Demand for Information may be issued as to why the license should not be modified, suspended, or revoked, or why such other action as may be proper should not be taken. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time.

If you contest this enforcement action, you should also provide a copy of your response, with the basis for your denial, to the Director, Office of Enforcement, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

Because your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), to the extent possible, it should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction. If personal privacy or proprietary information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, then please provide a bracketed copy of your response that identifies the information that should be protected and a redacted copy of your response that deletes such information. If you request withholding of such material, you must specifically identify the portions of your response that you seek to have withheld and provide in detail the bases for your claim of withholding (e.g., explain why the disclosure of information will create an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or provide the information required by 10 CFR 2.790(b) to support a request for withholding confidential commercial or financial information). If safeguards information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, please provide the level of protection described in 10 CFR 73.21.

In accordance with 10 CFR 19.11, you may be required to post this Notice within two working days.

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