

## NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Iowa State University  
UTR-10 Argonaut Reactor

Docket No. 50-116  
License No. R-059

During an NRC inspection conducted on July 21-25, 1997, 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 (T.S.) 4.0, SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS, states that "Surveillance tests, except those specifically required for safety when the reactor is shut down, may be deferred during reactor shutdown, however, they must be completed prior to reactor startup."

Contrary to the above, the reactor was taken critical and operated at full power on December 31, 1996, with the following surveillance requirements for safety systems incomplete:

- A. T.S. 4.2.3.B. requires that the drop time and delay time of all applicable control rods and the withdrawal time of each control rod be measured at least annually. These measurements were last made on December 21, 1995 and were not completed until January 8, 1997.
- B. T.S. 4.2.3.E. requires that the instrumentation listed in Table 3-1 be calibrated at least annually. Shim safety rod position indication was last calibrated on December 28, 1995 and was not completed until January 2, 1997.
- C. T.S. 4.3.3.A. requires that the coolant instrumentation listed in Table 3-2 be calibrated at least annually. The moderator level instrument was last calibrated on December 19, 1995 and was not completed until January 3, 1997.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement I).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, the University of Iowa is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555 with a copy to the responsible inspector, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region III, 801 Warrenville Road, Lisle, Illinois 60532, 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, (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.

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.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland  
this 18th of August 1997