



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 26, 2019

Dr. William Charlton, Director  
Nuclear Engineering Teaching Laboratory  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Pickle Research Campus, Building 159  
10100 Burnet Road  
Austin, TX 78758

SUBJECT: UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN – APPROVAL OF THE REVISED  
OPERATOR REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM RE: RENEWAL OF FACILITY  
OPERATING LICENSE NO. R-129 FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT  
AUSTIN RESEARCH REACTOR (EPID NO. L-2017-RNW-0032)

Dear Dr. Charlton:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is continuing its review of your application for the renewal of Facility Operating License No. R-129, for the University of Texas at Austin (UTA), dated December 12, 2011 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML12156A097).

The NRC staff completed its review of the UTA Operator Requalification Program, dated January 17, 2019 (ADAMS Accession No. ML19025A079) and finds the revised Operator Requalification Program to be in accordance with the applicable regulations contained in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 55, "Operators' Licenses," and consistent with the guidance contained in industry standard American National Standards Institute/American Nuclear Society-15.4-2016, "Selection and Training of Personnel for Research Reactors."

During its review, the NRC staff noticed that the revised UTA Operator Requalification Program does not include the requirements associated with 10 CFR 55.59(c)(6) "Alternative training programs." If the licensee finds the need to implement an alternative training program in the future, the licensee will have to submit one to the NRC for approval.

We request you implement your approved program immediately.

If you have any questions, or need additional time to respond to this request, please contact me at (301) 415-0893 or by electronic mail at [Geoffrey.Wertz@nrc.gov](mailto:Geoffrey.Wertz@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Geoffrey A. Wertz, Project Manager  
Research and Test Reactors Licensing Branch  
Division of Licensing Projects  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-602  
License No. R-129

cc: See next page

University of Texas

Docket No. 50-602

cc:

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Test, Research and Training  
Reactor Newsletter  
Attention: Ms. Amber Johnson  
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SUBJECT: UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN – APPROVAL OF THE REVISED OPERATOR REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM RE: RENEWAL OF FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. R 129 FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN RESEARCH REACTOR (EPID NO. L-2017-RNW-0032)  
 DATE: JULY 26, 2019

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**ADAMS Accession No. ML19200A192      \*concurring via email      NRR-106**

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