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January 15, 1997

Attn: Luis Reyes, Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta GA 30323

**Potential Tech Spec Violation -
Improper Stack Monitor Calibration**

Re: University of Florida Training Reactor/Facility License R-56, Docket No. 50-83

As per a telephone conversation on January 14, 1997 with Mr. Ed McAlpine concerning an improperly calibrated stack radiation monitor, we have concluded that this failure to properly calibrate the stack radiation monitor is a potentially reportable occurrence per UFTR Technical Specifications Section 6.5.2 delineating requirements for special reports.

The UFTR Technical Specifications require calibration checks of the stack radiation monitor on a quarterly basis. Although always performed in a timely manner, the use of a flawed procedure that failed to correct for the decay of the Cs-137 calibration source since mid-1990 led to a monitoring system that was not properly calibrated. The applicable section of the UFTR Technical Specifications requiring the quarterly calibration is Section 4.2.4(1) with the requirement for the monitor being in Table 3.3 in Section 3.4.2 of the Technical Specifications.

A full-power reactor run on January 14 authorized by the Reactor Safety Review Subcommittee showed the recent stack monitor indications were conservative as only minor adjustments were needed in the calibration performed on January 13, 1997 and the approximate full-power steady-state stack monitor reading is now ~2200-2300 cps versus ~2700-2800 cps on previous recent

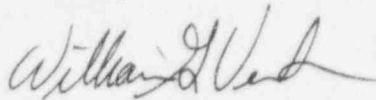
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full-power steady-state operations. The fact that recent values were conservative was conveyed to Mr. McAlpine in a following conversation on January 15, 1997 along with iterating that all stack grab samples to measure Argon-41 levels have been normal over this entire period. As of the afternoon of January 13, 1997 this monitor is properly calibrated.

If further information is needed, please let me know.

Sincerely,



William G. Vernetson
Director of Nuclear Facilities

WGV/dms

Copies: D. Cronin
RSRS

Sworn and subscribed this 15th day of January, 1997.

Kathleen A. Wilson
Notary Public

