

Ms. Glenn Carroll
Georgians Against Nuclear Energy
P. O. Box 8574
Atlanta, Georgia 30306

July 22, 1999

Dear Ms. Carroll:

This letter provides responses to your April 13, 1999, comment on the Georgia Tech Research Reactor Decommissioning Plan.

I understand your main comment for consideration by NRC to be that "the contamination should be handled on the Georgia Tech site ... keeping the radiation from the biosphere...." As long as a licensee acceptably meets applicable regulations, they have the right to make decisions about the disposition of licensed material. The applicable NRC regulation, 10 CFR 50.82(b)(6), requires that a facility license may be terminated and the facility released for unrestricted use if it meets specific requirements 10 CFR Part 20 Subpart E. The Decommissioning Plan proposed by Georgia Tech meets these requirements, so that the facility can be released for unrestricted use once decommissioning is complete. As we have in the past, we will continue to provide you courtesy copies of NRC's evaluations on the Georgia Tech Research Reactor, so that you will be on distribution for the NRC's evaluation of the decommissioning plan.

Your comment on the removal of the Cobalt-60 should be referred to the State of Georgia. The Cobalt-60 is licensed by the State and falls under that jurisdiction.

Thank you for your comments.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Marvin M. Mendonca, Senior Project Manager
Events Assessment, Generic Communications and
Non-Power Reactors Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-160
cc: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Thank you for your comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marvin M. Mendonca".

Marvin M. Mendonca, Senior Project Manager
Events Assessment, Generic Communications and
Non-Power Reactors Branch
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Georgia Institute of Technology

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