

May 25, 2000

Mr. G. A. Kuehn, Jr.
Program Director SNEC Facility
GPU Nuclear, Inc.
2574 Interstate Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17110

SUBJECT: SAXTON NUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL FACILITY - NOTICE OF
CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT (TAC NO. MA8664)

Dear Mr. Kuehn:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of a "Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility License, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for Hearing" related to your April 10, 2000, request for amendment to Amended Facility License No. DPR-4 for the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Facility (SNEF). The proposed amendment would make changes to the organizational and administrative controls for the SNEF to reflect changes in GPU Nuclear, Inc. following the sale of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station.

The notice has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket No. 50-146

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: Please see next page

Saxton Nuclear
Experimental Corporation

Docket No. 50-146

cc:

Mr. Arthur Rone
Vice President Nuclear
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Saxton, PA 16678

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James Fockler, Chairman
Saxton Citizens Task Force
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Saxton, PA 16678

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Saxton Independent Inspector
Radiation Science and Engineering Center
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Program Director SNEC Facility
GPU Nuclear, Inc.
2574 Interstate Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17110

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Bureau of Radiation Protection
Department of Environmental Protection
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Harrisburg, PA 17105-8469

Mr. Jim Tydeman
1402 Wall Street
Saxton, PA 16678

Mr. James H. Elder, Chairman
Concerned Citizens for SNEC Safety
Wall Street Ext.
Saxton, PA 16679

Mr. Ernest Fuller
R.D. #1
Six Mile Run, PA 16679

Saxton Borough Council
ATTN: Peggy Whited, Secretary
9th and Spring Streets
Saxton, PA 16678

Ms. Norma Ickes, Chair
Bedford County Commissioners
County Court House
203 South Juliana Street
Bedford, PA 15522

Mr. Larry Sather, Chairman
Huntingdon Country Commissioners
County Court House
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Saxton Community Library
Front Street
Saxton, PA 16678

Carbon Township Supervisors
ATTN: Penny Brode, Secretary
R. D. #1, Box 222-C
Saxton, PA 16678

Hopewell Township Supervisors
ATTN: Sally Giornesto, Secretary
RR 1 Box 95
James Creek, PA 16657-9512

Mr. D. Bud McIntyre, Chairman
Broad Top Township Supervisors
Broad Top Municipal Building
Defiance, PA 16633

Mr. Don Weaver, Chairman
Liberty Township Supervisors
R. D. #1
Saxton, PA 16678

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District
ATTN: S. Snarski/P. Juhle
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, MD 21203

The Honorable Robert C. Jubelirer
President Pro-Temp Senate of
Pennsylvania
30th District
State Capitol
Harrisburg, PA 17120

James J. Byrne
Three Mile Island Nuclear Station
P.O. Box 480
Middletown, PA 17057

May 25, 2000

Mr. G. A. Kuehn, Jr.
Program Director SNEC Facility
GPU Nuclear, Inc.
2574 Interstate Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17110

SUBJECT: SAXTON NUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL FACILITY - NOTICE OF
CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT (TAC NO. MA8664)

Dear Mr. Kuehn:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of a "Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility License, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for Hearing" related to your April 10, 2000, request for amendment to Amended Facility License No. DPR-4 for the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Facility (SNEF). The proposed amendment would make changes to the organizational and administrative controls for the SNEF to reflect changes in GPU Nuclear, Inc. following the sale of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station.

The notice has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket No. 50-146

Enclosure:
As stated
cc: Please see next page

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May 16, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Biweekly Notice Coordinator
/RA by L. Marsh Acting for/

FROM: Alexander Adams, Jr., Senior Project Manager
Events Assessment, Generic Communications and
Non-Power Reactors Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION IN BIWEEKLY FR NOTICE -
NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF
AMENDMENT TO FACILITY LICENSE, PROPOSED NO
SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS CONSIDERATION DETERMINATION,
AND OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING (TAC NO. MA8664)

GPU Nuclear, Inc. and Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation, Docket No. 50-146,

Saxton Nuclear Experimental Facility (SNEF), Bedford County, Pennsylvania

Date of amendment request: April 10, 2000

Description of amendment request: The proposed amendment would make changes to the organizational and administrative controls for the SNEF to reflect changes in GPU Nuclear, Inc. following the sale of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station. The proposed changes to the technical specifications (TSs) would (1) replace reference to the President of GPU Nuclear and division Vice Presidents with a GPU Nuclear Cognizant Officer, (2) replace reference to "other GPU Nuclear personnel" with "other GPU Inc, personnel," (3) replace reference to the "Radiation Safety Committee" with the "TMI2/SNEC Oversight Committee," (4) replace "GPU Nuclear audit program procedures" with "approved Quality Assurance Plan procedures," and (5) make changes to the TSs to reflect changes to NRC organization.

Basis for proposed no significant hazards consideration determination: As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensees have provided their analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

GPUN has determined that Technical Specifications Change request No. 60 involves no significant hazards consideration as defined in 10 CFR 50.92.

1. The proposed changes to the SNEC Technical Specifications do not involve a significant increase in the probability of occurrence or consequences of an accident or malfunction of equipment important to safety previously analyzed in the safety analysis report. The changes have no impact on plant operations or the release of radioactive materials.
2. The proposed changes to the SNEC Technical Specifications will not create the possibility for an accident or malfunction of a different type than any previously evaluated in the safety analysis report because no plant configuration or operational changes are involved.
3. The changes will not involve a significant reduction in the margin of safety as defined in the basis for any technical specification for SNEC because no change to operational limits will be made.

The NRC staff has reviewed the analysis of the licensees and, based on this review, it appears that the three standards of 50.92(c) are satisfied. Therefore, the NRC staff proposes to determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.

Attorney for the Licensee: Ernest L. Blake, Jr., Esquire, Shaw, Pittman, Potts, and Trowbridge, 2300 N Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037

NRC Branch Director: Ledyard B. Marsh