

January 16, 2001

Mr. G. A. Kuehn, Jr.
Vice President, SNEC and
Program Director SNEC Facility
GPU Nuclear, Inc.
Route 441 South
Post Office Box 480
Middletown, PA 17057-0480

SUBJECT: SAXTON NUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL FACILITY - NOTICE OF
CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT (TAC NO. MB0692)

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 November 30, 2000, request for amendment to Amended Facility License No. DPR-4 for the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Facility (SNEF). The proposed amendment would change the name GPU Nuclear Corporation to GPU Nuclear, Inc., where it appears in the facility license.

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 w/enclosure:
Please see next page

Saxton Nuclear
Experimental Corporation

Docket No. 50-146

cc:

Mr. Sandy Levin
Chief Nuclear Officer
GPU Inc.
300 Madison Avenue
P.O. Box 1911
Morristown, NJ 07962-1911

Dr. Rodger W. Granlund
Saxton Independent Inspector
Radiation Science and Engineering Center
The Pennsylvania State University
Breazeale Nuclear Reactor
University Park, PA 16802-2301

Mr. Manuel Delgado
2799 Battlefield Road
Fishers Hill, VA 22626

Mr. Gareth McGrath
Altoona Mirror
301 Cayuga Avenue
Altoona, PA 16603

Mr. Eric Blocher
216 Logan Avenue
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Mr. Michael Roche
President, SNEC
300 Madison Avenue
P.O. Box 1911
Morristown, NJ 07962-1911

David Lewis, Esquire
Shaw, Pittman, Potts, and Trowbridge
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Dr. William Vernetson
Director of Nuclear Facilities
Department of Nuclear Engineering
Sciences
University of Florida
202 Nuclear Sciences Center
Gainesville, FL 32611

Mr. David Sokolsky
1000 King Salmon Avenue
Eureka, CA 95503

Mr. Gene Baker
501 16th Street
Saxton, PA 16678

Mr. Michael P. Murphy, Nuclear Engineer
Bureau of Radiation Protection
Department of Environmental Protection
13th Floor, Rachel Carson State
Office Building
P.O. Box 8469
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8469

Mr. Dick Spargo
1004 Main Street
Saxton, PA 16678

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

Mr. Jim Tydeman
1402 Wall Street
Saxton, PA 16678

James Fockler, Chairman
Saxton Citizens Task Force
1505 Liberty Street
Saxton, PA 16678

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

Mr. Ernest Fuller
1427 Kearney Hill Road
Six Mile Run, PA 16679

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

Mr. David J. Thompson, Chair
Bedford County Commissioners
County Court House
203 South Juliana Street
Bedford, PA 15522

Mr. Larry Sather, Chairman
Huntingdon County 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. 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

Mr. James Byrne
GPU Nuclear, Inc.
P.O. Box 480
Middletown, PA 17057

Mr. Edwin Fuhrer
AmerGen Energy Co., LLC
P.O. Box 480
Middletown, PA 17057

Mr. Mark E. Warner
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P.O. Box 480
Middletown, PA 17057

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CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT (TAC NO. MB0692)

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Events Assessment, Generic Communications and
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TEMPLATE #: NRR-056

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December 22, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Biweekly Notice Coordinator

FROM: Alexander Adams, Jr., Senior Project Manager */RA/*
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. MB0692)

GPU Nuclear Corporation and Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation (SNEC), Docket
No. 50-146, Saxton Nuclear Experimental Facility (SNEF), Bedford County, Pennsylvania
Date of amendment request: November 30, 2000.

Description of amendment request: The proposed amendment would change the name in
the license of GPU Nuclear Corporation to GPU Nuclear, Inc.

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:

The NRC has previously determined that similar amendments reflecting this name
change have involved no significant hazards consideration. See 62 Fed. Reg. 4341,4350
(1997) and 62 Fed. Reg. 59912, 59915 (1997).

Consistent with these prior NRC determinations, GPU Nuclear has determined that
the License Amendment involves no significant hazards considerations as defined in
10 CFR 50.92

1. The proposed changes to the Saxton License 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 Saxton License 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 operation changes are involved.

3. The changes will not involve a significant reduction in the margin of safety as defined in the basis of any technical specification for Saxton 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 Chief: Ledyard B. Marsh