

August 1, 2005

Dr. Charles R. Fay
Vice Provost for Research Administration
Cornell University
314 Day Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853-2801

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE REGARDING
DECOMMISSIONING AMENDMENT AND SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS
(TAC NO. MC1141)

Dear Dr. Fay:

Enclosed for your information is a "Notice and Solicitation of Comments Pursuant to 10 CFR 20.1405 and 10 CFR 50.82(b)(5) Concerning Proposed Action to Decommission the Ward Center for Nuclear Studies at Cornell University (TRIGA Reactor, Docket No. 50-157, License R-80 and Zero Power Reactor, Docket No. 50-97, License R-89)" concerning your application for approval of your decommissioning plan dated August 22, 2003. In accordance with the regulations, this notice is also being sent to the Office of the Federal Register and other forums for publication. If you have any questions please contact me at 301-415-1631.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Daniel E. Hughes, Project Manager
Research and Test Reactors Section
New, Research and Test Reactors Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-157/97

Enclosure: Notice and Solicitation of Comments

cc: w/encl: See next page

Cornell University

Docket Nos. 50-157/97

cc:

Dr. Joseph Burns, Vice Provost
for Physical Sciences and Engineering
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Ithaca, NY 14853-2801

Mr. Steve Beyers, P.E.
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125 Humphreys Service Building
Ithaca, NY 14853

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Gainesville, FL 32611

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New, Research and Test Reactors Program
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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
NOTICE AND SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS
PURSUANT TO 10 CFR 20.1405 AND 10 CFR 50.82(b)(5) CONCERNING
PROPOSED ACTION TO DECOMMISSION
WARD CENTER FOR NUCLEAR STUDIES AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY
REACTOR FACILITY
DOCKET NO. 50-157/97

Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has received an application from the Cornell University dated August 22, 2003, for a license amendment approving its proposed decommissioning plan for the Ward Center for Nuclear Studies (TRIGA Reactor, Docket No. 50-157, License R-80 and Zero Power Reactor, Docket No. 50-97, License R-89) located in Ithaca, New York.

In accordance with 10 CFR 20.1405, the Commission is providing notice and soliciting comments from local and State governments in the vicinity of the site and any Indian Nation or other indigenous people that have treaty or statutory rights that could be affected by the decommissioning. This notice and solicitation of comments is published pursuant to 10 CFR 20.1405, which provides for publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER and in a forum, such as local newspapers, letters to State or local organizations, or other appropriate forum, that is readily accessible to individuals in the vicinity of the site.

Comments should be provided within 30 days of the date of this notice to Patrick M. Madden, Chief, Research and Test Reactors Section, New, Research and Test Reactors Program, Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, Mail Stop O12-G13, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555.

Further, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.82(b)(5), notice is also provided to interested persons of the Commission's intent to approve the plan by amendment, subject to such conditions and limitations as it deems appropriate and necessary, if the plan demonstrates that decommissioning will be performed in accordance with the regulations in this chapter and will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Copies of the application for a license amendment approving Cornell University's proposed decommissioning plan are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, 20855-2738. The NRC maintains an Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), which provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. The initial application may be accessed through the NRC's Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>, under ADAMS accession number ML032400421, ML032400186, ML032400205, and ML032400427. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS, or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, may contact the NRC PDR Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 1st day of August 2005.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Alexander Adams, Jr., Acting Section Chief
Research and Test Reactors Section
New, Research and Test Reactors Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation