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DOCKET: 70-1257

LICENSEE: AREVA NP Inc. Richland, WA

SUBJECT: SAFEGUARDS EVALUATION REPORT: LICENSE AMENDMENT 48 -  
REVISION 3 UPDATE TO AREVA NP INC. PHYSICAL PROTECTION PLAN  
(TAC L31951)

### BACKGROUND

On October 20, 2006, AREVA NP Inc. (AREVA) Richland submitted a revised Physical Protection Plan Revision 3.0 (Plan). The Plan describes how the licensee will meet the criteria in 10 CFR 73.67(f) for the physical protection of activities for which the facility is licensed. Numerous changes were made to comply with the CAT III Order issued to AREVA on October 3, 2002. The NRC staff reviewed the submittal and requested additional information (RAI), which AREVA provided on September 22, 2006. This Plan was submitted under the provisions of 10 CFR 70.32(e), which does not require NRC approval prior to implementation in that the changes would result in no decrease in effectiveness of the licensee's physical protection program. The NRC has incorporated the revised Plan into Special Nuclear Material License SNM-1227, by amendment, to update the safeguards condition in the license and in preparation of the AREVA application for license renewal expected in late 2006.

### DISCUSSION

The Plan, submitted for review, is a complete revision of the licensee's January 22, 1998, CAT III security plan. The current version was submitted to reflect the additional security measures added to the facility after the issuance of the CAT III Order. The changes include procedural, administrative, and physical security additions. The revised Plan also reflects the licensee's name change from Framatome to AREVA NP, Inc.

The licensee's letter, dated September 22, 2006, addressed the RAI questions regarding the Plan. The RAI response stated that individuals at security posts were required to be trained security personnel. The licensee also made several administrative corrections to the Plan, and addressed the requirements in 10 CFR 73.73 and 73.74 for import and export shipments that had been lacking. The licensee provided sufficient responses to the RAIs and committed to implement the changes in the Plan prior to inclusion of Safeguards License Condition SG-2.1.

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ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The NRC staff has determined that the proposed changes in the AREVA Plan relates solely to safeguards matters and, as such, this amendment is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an environmental assessment. Therefore, in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 51.22(c)(12), neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is warranted for this action.

CONCLUSION

The staff concludes that the Plan, submitted by letter dated October 20, 2006, contains the necessary information to meet regulatory requirements. The staff agrees that the changes constitute no decrease in security effectiveness as required in 10 CFR 70.32(e). Further, the staff has determined that the requested actions should have no adverse affect on the public health and safety or on the environment.

The revised Plan warrants the issuance of a revised safeguards license condition due to the time elapsed since the previous Plan amendment of January 22, 1998, and the anticipated request for license renewal of Special Nuclear Materials license SNM-1227. Therefore, it is recommended that Safety Condition S-1 be revised to include the submittal date of October 20, 2006, and Safeguards License Condition SG-2.1 be revised as follows:

SG-2.1 The licensee shall follow the Physical Protection Plan entitled "Physical Protection Plan for SNM for Low Strategic Significance, Revision 3.0 for AREVA NP Inc.'s Richland, Washington Fuel Fabrication Facility," dated October 20, 2006; and as it may be further revised in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 70.32(e).

Approval of the amendment application by issuing this safeguards license condition is recommended.

Region II inspection staff has no objection to this proposed action.

PRINCIPAL CONTRIBUTORS:

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