



**HITACHI**

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Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001  
Attn: Document Control Desk

February 24, 2010

Subject: Renewal of Materials License SNM-960

- References:
- 1) SNM-960, Docket 70-754
  - 2) Updated Vallecitos Facility Decommissioning Closure Plan and Cost Estimate – S.P. Murray to M.N. Baker/M. Mendonca, 7/2/09
  - 3) SNM 960 License Renewal Application – D. W. Turner to Director NMSS (Document Control Desk), 9/30/09
  - 4) Response to NRC License Renewal Request for Additional Information dated 11/18/09 – D. W. Turner to C. Ryder, 12/7/09
  - 5) Non-Acceptance of Renewal Application – D. H. Dorman to D.W. Turner, 1/6/10
  - 6) Pre-Licensing Meeting to Discuss License Renewal – 2/18/10

GE Hitachi (GEH) hereby makes an application pursuant to 10CFR70.33 to renew Special Nuclear Materials License SNM-960 for a term of 10 years. The current license expires June 30, 2010. On the basis of this application GEH further requests that the authorized activities in the existing license continue in effect until the application has been finally determined as provided in 10 CFR 2.109 (a).

In April 2009 GEH met with members of the NRC Staff and discussed our plan for the license renewal application. Noted at that time was the fact that the current license had been in effect for nearly 10 years and had performed well with no questions of interpretation during inspections and therefore most portions of the license needed minor changes to bring them up-to-date and to reformat the previous license into the format suggested in the new guidance. It was also noted that 10 CFR 70, Subpart H included an increased focus on “Management Measures” and these were consolidated in a single chapter in the license renewal application.

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NRC approved the Site Physical Security Plan on July 7, 2009 and no additional actions for it are required. Neither a Nuclear Material Control Plan or a Radiological Contingency and Emergency Plan are required for SNM 960 licensed activities.

As we discussed last April, the Vallecitos Facility Decommissioning Closure Plan and Cost Estimates were being updated and these were provided to NRC on July 2, 2009 (Reference 2) and in lieu of an Environmental Report, a summary of the annual site Environmental Monitoring and Surveillance Reports covering the prior ten-year period were provided to NRC on September 30, 2009 (Reference 3).

As discussed at our February 18, 2010 pre-licensing meeting (Reference 6), the attachment to this letter is a complete updated SNM 960 License Renewal Application. This application replaces the September 30, 2009 application in its entirety and addresses the deficiencies described in the NRC Non-Acceptance letter dated January 6, 2010 (Reference 5).

GEH has updated the following sections in Chapter 1 – General Information since the 9/30/09 renewal application:

- Added details and a process flow diagram to process description
- Added a "Facilities and Equipment for Handling SNM" section
- Added a Building 102 main floor layout diagram
- Added shielded enclosure, storage pool, and dry pit storage descriptions
- Moved ventilation and enclosure descriptions from Chapter 4 to Chapter 1
- Added exhaust system details and a flow diagram figure
- Added a backup power supply description
- Added a measuring and monitoring device section
- Moved the criticality accident alarm system description from Chapter 5 to Chapter 1
- Moved the liquid and solid waste management facility descriptions from Chapter 9 to Chapter 1

Please contact me on (925) 862-4344 if you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

 Digitally signed by David  
W. Turner  
Date: 2010.02.24  
12:56:00 -0800

D. W. Turner, Manager  
Vallecitos Nuclear Center

Attachment

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cc: DWT-2010-02  
P. Habighorst, NRC NMSS, Washington, DC  
C. Ryder, NRC NMSS, Washington, DC  
E. Collins Jr., Region IV, Arlington, TX  
S. P. Murray, Manager GEH Licensing & Liabilities

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Attachment