



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

MAY 17 1989

IMAF:GC

DOCKET NO.: 70-687

LICENSE NO.: SNM-639

LICENSEE: CINTICHEM, INC.

INSTALLATION: TUXEDO, NY

SUBJECT: CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION UNDER PROVISION OF 10 CFR 51.22(c)(11)

By letter dated April 18, 1989, Cintichem requested an amendment to allow an increase in possession limits for U-235 from 23 kilograms to 50 kilograms contained in enriched uranium. The same letter also requested an increase in the storage time limit for aluminum waste-form process containers from 2 months to 3 years.

Condition 4.2.8, Part I of the Consolidated Application for Special Nuclear Material License No. SNM-639 permits an unlimited quantity of SNM, packaged in accordance with Condition 4.2.7(b), to be stored underwater in the gamma pit, provided that there is a 12-inch minimum water thickness between each container or containers stacked end to end. Although physical dimensions of the gamma pit restrict the actual SNM quantity to a quantifiable amount, current possession limits, storage time limits, and processing parameters allow Cintichem to utilize only a small portion of the available physical space. This amendment facilitates the use of a greater amount of the previously licensed space in the gamma pit. Because current license conditions already consider a greater quantity of material than currently stored in the gamma pit, (i) there is no significant increase in the amounts of effluents that may be released off site, (ii) there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure, (iii) there is no significant construction impact, and (iv) there is no significant increase in the potential for or consequence from radiological accidents.

Therefore, in accordance with 10 CFR 51.22(c)(11), an environmental assessment is not warranted for this action.

Leland C. Rouse, Chief
Fuel Cycle Safety Branch
Division of Industrial and
Medical Nuclear Safety

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