

December 15, 2011

DATE:

LICENSEE: University of California – Davis

FACILITY: McClellan Nuclear Research Center (MNRC)

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER 28, 2011, MEETING WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA – DAVIS, ON RADIOISOTOPE SCIENCES AND DEVELOPMENTS

On November 28, 2011, a Category 1 public meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff and representatives of the University of California – Davis (UC Davis, the licensee) at NRC Headquarters, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The meeting announcement and the licensee's presentation slides discussed at the meeting are available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System at Accession No. ML113480211.

The licensee discussed expanding their focus on radioisotope research and production using accelerator and reactor technologies. The licensee has established the UC Davis Radioisotope Science Facility (RSF) in a building adjacent to the MNRC (115 feet north). Before the McClellan Air Force Base closed, the building was used by the U.S. Air Force for x-ray and neutron radiography of aircraft. The licensee plans to establish radioisotope research and teaching laboratories and facilities for the processing of iodine-125 (I-125) in the RSF.

The licensee plans to irradiate xenon-124 targets in the reactor which decay into I-125. The licensee has produced I-125 in the past. However, that effort was abandoned due to long-term performance issues with seals in the irradiation facility. The licensee is in the process of developing an improved irradiation target and processing facility. Details of the process and facility design were discussed during the meeting and are shown on the licensee's presentation slides.

The question of whether processing of the irradiated targets in the RSF could be performed under the byproduct material use condition of the reactor license was discussed. The reactor license contains a condition that allows the licensee to use byproduct material produced by operation of the reactor. This license condition is used by some licensees to conduct broad research and isotope processing under the reactor license. The proposed processing laboratory in the RSF is not part of the current reactor licensed area. The question of whether a construction permit would be needed to add the I-125 RSF laboratories to the reactor license was also discussed. It was agreed that the licensee would outline its plans and reasoning in a letter to NRC.

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No members of the public attended the meeting. Public Meeting Feedback forms were not received. Please direct any inquiries to A. Adams at 301-415-1127 or Alexander.Adams@nrc.gov.

/RA/

Alexander Adams, Jr., Senior Project Manager
Research and Test Reactors Licensing Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket 50-607

Enclosure:
List of Attendees

LIST OF ATTENDEES

MEETING BETWEEN NRC STAFF AND UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA - DAVIS

RADIOISOTOPE SCIENCES AND DEVELOPMENTS

NOVEMBER 28, 2011

DOCKET 50-607

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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A. Adams, NRR/DPR/PRLB
J. Quichocho, NRR/DPR/PRLB
L. Tran, NRR/DPR/PRLB
M. Voth, NRR/DPR/PRLB
S. Uttal, OGC
K. Hardin, NMSS/SFST

University of California

B. Klein
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Enclosure