

August 18, 1997

Dr. Jay F. Kunze
Dean College of Engineering
Idaho State University, Box 8060
Pocatello, Idaho 83209

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT NO. 5 TO AMENDED FACILITY OPERATING
LICENSE NO. R-110, IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY (TAC NO. M99286)

Dear Dr. Kunze:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 5 to amended Facility Operating License No. R-110 for the Idaho State University Training and Research Reactor Facility in response to your submittal dated July 23, 1997. The amendment revises License Condition 2.B.(2) to increase the possession limit from 700 grams to 995 grams of low enriched Uranium-235.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation supporting Amendment No. 5 is also enclosed.

Sincerely,

|Original signed by|
Theodore S. Michaels, Senior Project Manager
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning
Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-284

Enclosures:

- 1. Amendment No. 5
- 2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 18, 1997

Dr. Jay F. Kunze
Dean College of Engineering
Idaho State University, Box 8060
Pocatello, Idaho 83209

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Theodore S. Michaels".

Theodore S. Michaels, Senior Project Manager
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning
Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-284

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Idaho State University

Docket No. 50-284

cc:

State Planning and Community
Affairs Agency
State of Idaho
Boise, Idaho 83720

Dr. John S. Bennion
Research Reactor Facility Director
College of Engineering
Idaho State University, Box 8060
Pocatello, Idaho 83209



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY

DOCKET NO. 50-284

AMENDMENT TO AMENDED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 5
License No. R-110

1. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment to amended Facility Operating License No. R-110, filed by the Idaho State University (the licensee), dated July 23, 1997, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the regulations of the Commission as set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the regulations of the Commission;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public;
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the regulations of the Commission and all applicable requirements have been satisfied; and
 - F. Prior notice of this amendment was not required by 10 CFR 2.105 and publication of notice for this amendment is not required by 10 CFR 2.106.
2. Accordingly, License Condition 2.B.(2) is hereby amended to read as follows:

- (2) Pursuant to the Act and Title 10, CFR, Chapter I, Part 70, "Special Nuclear Material," to receive, possess, and use up to 995 grams of contained uranium-235, enriched to 20 percent in uranium dioxide (UO₂) embedded in radiation stabilized polyethylene, in connection with operation of the reactor;
3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Marvin M. Mendonca, Acting Director
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning
Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Date of Issuance: August 18, 1997



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 5 TO AMENDED

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. R-110

IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY

DOCKET NO. 50-284

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated July 23, 1997, Idaho State University (the licensee) requested that License Condition 2.B.(2) be changed to increase the possession limit from 700 grams to 995 grams of low enriched Uranium-235.

2.0 EVALUATION

The licensee's reason for requesting an increase in the possession limit from 700 grams to 995 grams is to be able to receive replacement parts for a damaged fueled control element. The staff finds that the increase in the possession limit is acceptable in that the replacement parts are similar in composition and form to those already possessed and used by the licensee. Further, the increase in possession limit does not raise the security level requirements of the facility.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves a change in a requirement with respect to the installation or use of facility components located within the restricted areas defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The staff has determined that this amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, this amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) because the amendment does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of accidents previously evaluated, or create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated, and does not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety, the amendment does not involve a significant hazards consideration, (2) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by the proposed activities, and (3) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: Theodore S. Michaels

Date: August 18, 1997
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