

June 1, 2015

LICENSEE: Texas A&M University

FACILITY: Aerojet General Nucleonics Reactor

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MAY 11, 2015, MEETING WITH TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AND RENUKE SERVICES TO DISCUSS THE RELOCATION OF THE 5 WATT AEROJET GENERAL NUCLEONICS REACTOR (TAC NO. MF6159)

On May 11, 2015, a Category 1 public meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff and representatives from Texas A&M University (TAMU) along with their contractor ReNuke Services, at NRC Headquarters, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The purpose of the meeting was for TAMU to provide NRC staff with more information on the planned relocation of the 5 watt Aerojet General Nucleonics (AGN) reactor. Specifically, TAMU presented an overview of the existing nuclear engineering program, expansion plans encompassing the Zachry building (current location of the AGN), relocation plans for the AGN reactor, and proposed changes to the existing Nuclear Science Center (NSC). The meeting notice and agenda, dated April 22, 2015, is available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management Systems under Accession No. ML15114A440. A list of the attendees is provided in the enclosure.

The NRC staff opened the meeting by providing TAMU with a few remarks about the importance of continued engagement and open communication with the NRC as the relocation plan is developed and implemented. The NRC indicated many divisions and offices are required for support of the relocation effort and encouraged additional dialog in follow up to this initial meeting.

TAMU verbally presented (via telephone) their expansion plans at TAMU as it related to the Nuclear Engineering department with an emphasis on the large size and aggressive growth plans. TAMU is making a significant financial investment to expand the engineering facilities and the relocation of the AGN reactor falls within that financial/strategic plan. TAMU further emphasized, that while the AGN may be placed in storage at the NSC, they do not want it to remain shut down any longer than absolutely necessary. TAMU acknowledged the existence of the legacy items for the AGN, specifically the outstanding Confirmatory Action Letter (CAL) and ongoing license renewal work. TAMU stated that the relocation efforts will not distract from these current licensing activities. In fact, they stated that they now have additional resources available to address the open items for the CAL and license renewal related to the support for the relocation of the AGN reactor.

TAMU outlined its plan to remove the AGN from the Zachry building and place it in storage at the NSC. They acknowledged that this would require a license amendment for the Training, Research, and Isotope Production, General Atomics (TRIGA) reactor located at the NSC,

in addition to a license amendment for the AGN reactor. TAMU indicated they would like to decontaminate and release the areas in the Zachry building that currently house the AGN reactor, after the AGN reactor is removed from the Zachry building. TAMU indicated that they have a fairly aggressive schedule to vacate and release the Zachry building. They would like to be completely out of the building and release the space by the end of April 2016. To support this they plan on submitting the required license amendments in the July to August 2015 timeframe. They would like to begin the physical move no later than January 2016, with decontamination and decommission work to follow.

The NRC staff followed with questions related to the planned activities including transportation requirements, decontamination and survey plans, and proposed licensing activities including responding to existing requests for additional information related to the ongoing license renewal and CAL.

An opportunity was provided for public comment and no questions were asked. Following closing remarks from the licensee, the meeting was adjourned.

Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-3936 or Patrick.Boyle@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Patrick G. Boyle, Nuclear Engineer
Project Manager for the TAMU-AGN Reactor
Research and Test Reactors Licensing Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-059 and 50-128

Enclosure:
List of Attendees

cc: See next page

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/RA/

Patrick G. Boyle, Nuclear Engineer
Project Manager for the TAMU-AGN Reactor
Research and Test Reactors Licensing Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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DATE	05/21/2015	05/28/2015	5/28/2015	6/1/2015

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Texas A&M University

Docket No. 50-059

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LIST OF ATTENDEES

May 11, 2015 MEETING WITH TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
John A. Zwolinski	ReNuke Services
Richard P Werdann	ReNuke Services
Chris Crouch	Texas A&M University (TAMU)
Patrick Boyle	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
Carl Weber	NRC
Zahira Cruz	NRC
Duane Hardesty	NRC
Dan Barss	NRC
Mirela Gavrilas	NRC
Alexander Adams	NRC
Michelle Moser	NRC
Mitzi Young	NRC
Norbert Carte	NRC

Via telephone:

Dr. Sean McDeavitt	TAMU (presenter)
Jerry Newhouse	TAMU
Daniel Menchaca	TAMU
Christina Robertson	TAMU
Michelle Simpson	NRC
Rich Jacoby	PUBLIC

Enclosure