

21G-15-0146
GOV-01-55-04
ACF-15-0211

July 27, 2015

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

- References:
- 1) Docket No. 70-143; License SNM-124
 - 2) Letter dated September 26, 2014, NRC to B&W NOG-L, Planned Babcock & Wilcox Company Reorganization (TAC #L33341)
 - 3) Letter dated October 24, 2014, NFS to NRC, Revision to Chapter 1 of License SNM-124
 - 4) Letter dated November 10, 2014, NRC to NFS, Acceptance of Changes to SNM-124, Chapter 1 (TAC No. L33352)
 - 5) Letter dated March 17, 2015, NRC to B&W NOG-L, B&W Company Planned Spin-off of Power Generation Business (TAC No. L33356)

Subject: Revision to Chapter 1, General Information, of License SNM-124

Pursuant to License Condition S-2, Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. (NFS) hereby submits a copy of changes made to License SNM-124, Chapter 1, General Information. The revised chapter in its entirety is attached, in addition to a revised Chapter Index. Changes are denoted by vertical lines in the right margin of affected pages.

In Reference 2, the Commission determined that replacing BWX Technologies, Inc. with Babcock and Wilcox Government & Nuclear Operations, Inc., was not a direct or indirect transfer of control under 10CFR 30.34(b). Therefore, NFS submitted in Reference 3 that change to Chapter 1, General Information, of License SNM-124, along with a few additional changes to Chapter 1 that also met the criteria of License Condition (LC) S-2. The NRC accepted those changes and found that NFS was authorized to make the changes without prior NRC approval (Reference 4).

The Babcock & Wilcox Company spin-off of certain non-nuclear affiliates, discussed with the NRC in late 2014, was completed on July 1, 2015. In Reference 5, the NRC stated that the planned B&W corporate actions did not constitute a direct or indirect transfer of control of any NRC license within the B&W chain of companies. As a result of this recent spin-off, NFS has revised the affected pages in Chapter 1 and is submitting them per the requirements of LC S-2.

1148501

If you or your staff have any questions, require additional information, or wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (423) 743-1705, or Mr. Andrew Sabisch, Licensing and ISA Manager, at (423) 735-5030. Please reference our unique document identification number (21G-15-0146) in any correspondence concerning this letter.

Sincerely,

NUCLEAR FUEL SERVICES, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard J. Freudenberger", written in a cursive style.

Richard J. Freudenberger, Director
Safety and Safeguards

Attachments: SNM-124, Chapter Index, dated July 27, 2015
SNM-124, Chapter 1, Revision 4, dated July 27, 2015

RPD/pdj

Copy:

Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
245 Peachtree Center Ave., NE, Suite 1200
Atlanta, GA 30303-1257

Mr. David Hartland
Project Inspector
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
245 Peachtree Center Ave., NE, Suite 1200
Atlanta, GA 30303-1257

Mr. Kevin Ramsey
Senior Project Manager
Fuel Manufacturing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Mr. Marvin Sykes
Chief, Projects Branch 1
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
245 Peachtree Center Ave., NE, Suite 1200
Atlanta, GA 30303-1257

Mr. Charles Stancil
Senior Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

ATTACHMENT 1

Chapter Index 07/27/15

(1 page to follow)

**SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124**

CHAPTER INDEX

Chapter	Title	Revision	Revision Date
1	General Information	4	07/27/2015
2	Organization and Administration	2	09/28/2012
3	Integrated Safety Analysis	0	06/30/2009
4	Radiation Protection	1	05/13/2011
5	Nuclear Criticality Safety	1	05/27/2011
6	Chemical Process Safety	0	06/30/2009
7	Fire Safety	2	09/09/2014
8	Emergency Management	0	06/30/2009
9	Environmental Protection	1	09/30/2011
10	Decommissioning	1	08/01/2011
11	Management Measures	2	09/28/2012
Addendum	Sensitive Information	1	09/09/2011

ATTACHMENT 2

Chapter 1, General Information, Revision 4

(25 pages to follow)

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124
CHAPTER 1

GENERAL INFORMATION
Table of Contents

SECTION	TITLE	STARTS ON PAGE
1.1	Facility and Process Information	1-1
1.1.1	General Facility Description	
1.1.2	Facility Buildings and Structures	
1.1.3	General Process Description	
1.1.4	Raw Materials, Products, By-Products and Wastes	
1.2	Institutional Information	1-7
1.2.1	Corporate Identity	
1.2.2	Financial Qualifications	
1.2.3	Type, Quantity, and Form of Licensed Material	
1.2.3.1	Uranium Enriched in the ²³⁵ U Isotope	
1.2.3.2	Uranium Enriched in the ²³³ U Isotope	
1.2.3.3	Plutonium	
1.2.3.4	Transuranic Isotopes	
1.2.3.5	Fission Products	
1.2.4	Authorized Uses	
1.2.4.1	Product Processing Operations	
1.2.4.2	Laboratory Operations	
1.2.4.3	General Services Operations	
1.2.4.4	Research and Development Operations	
1.2.4.5	Waste Treatment and Disposal	
1.2.4.6	Period of License	
1.2.5	Special Exemptions and Special Authorizations	
1.2.5.1	Criticality Monitoring	
1.2.5.2	Posting and Labeling	
1.2.5.3	Contamination-Free Articles	
1.2.5.4	Decommissioning Funding Plan	
1.2.5.5	Decommissioning-Related Activities Performed Prior to the End of Plant Life	
1.2.5.6	Transportation of SNM	
1.2.5.7	Use of ICRP 68 DAC and ALI Values	
1.2.6	Security of Classified Information	
1.2.7	Terminology/Definitions	
1.3	Site Description	1-16
1.3.1	Site Geography	
1.3.2	Demographics	
1.3.3	Meteorology	
1.3.4	Hydrology	
1.3.5	Geology	

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124
CHAPTER 1

SECTION	TITLE	STARTS ON PAGE
Appendix 1A	Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. Affiliates	1-20
Appendix 1B	Listing of Chemical and Physical Forms of Uranium Authorized	1-22

NUMBER	FIGURE	STARTS ON PAGE
1-1	PLANT LAYOUT AND PROPERTY BOUNDARIES	1-2
1A-1	NFS CORPORATE STRUCTURE	1-21

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE

SNM-124 CHAPTER 1

GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Facility and Process Information

1.1.1 General Facility Description

The Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. (NFS) site is located at 1205 Banner Hill Road, within the limits of the City of Erwin. The Protected Area of approximately 18 acres is located within approximately 70 acres of NFS-owned land, the remainder of which is either devoted to vehicle parking areas, is undeveloped, or is undergoing decommissioning. Additional information describing the NFS facility, including its location with respect to geographic features, roadways, population centers, industrial facilities, and public facilities, is provided in Section 1.3, "Site Description."

1.1.2 Facility Buildings and Structures

The facilities within the NFS site consist of numerous buildings, the majority of which are located within the Protected Area. The buildings and structures include the major SNM-processing production facilities, SNM-handling support facilities (storage, waste treatment, etc.), and a large number of non-SNM-handling support facilities (materials warehouses, maintenance shops, office buildings, etc.).

Buildings within the plant have been designated with numbers and names as shown in Figure 1-1. The major site features and descriptions of their current primary function(s) are provided below for informational purposes and are not intended to be restrictive of future potential activities in those facilities.

High Enriched Uranium (HEU) Fuel Production Facilities **(Bldgs. 302, 303, 304, 306, & 307)**

Unit operations which produce a classified product containing high enriched uranium, as well as uranium recovery operations. Receipt, handling, and shipment of feed and product materials.

Blended Low Enriched Uranium (BLEU) Production Facilities

1. Uranyl Nitrate Building (UNB) (Bldg. 510)

Receipt, handling, and storage of liquid uranyl nitrate.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124
CHAPTER 1

Figure 1-1: Plant Layout and Property Boundaries

This drawing is “Official Use Only” and has been moved to the “Sensitive Information” ADDENDUM.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE

SNM-124

CHAPTER 1

2. **Commercial Development Line (CDL) Facility (Bldg. 301)**
Conversion of HEU materials to uranium oxides or to uranyl nitrate solution for subsequent purification and downblending in the adjacent BLEU Preparation Facility.
3. **BLEU Preparation Facility (BPF) (Bldg. 333)**
Conversion of HEU materials to pure HE uranyl nitrate solution, preparation of blendstock (N uranyl nitrate solution), subsequent mixture of the HE uranyl nitrate and blendstock solution to form a LE uranyl nitrate solution (product), and uranium recovery operations.
4. **Oxide Conversion Building (OCB) (Bldg. 520)**
Conversion of low enriched uranyl nitrate liquids into uranium oxides. Loading of powder for shipment.
5. **Effluent Processing Building (EPB) (Bldg. 530)**
Treatment of process waste streams generated at the OCB (Bldg. 520) prior to discharge and/or disposal.
6. **LEU Dilution and Loading Facility (Bldg. 440)**
Dilution of LEU produced by the BLEU Preparation Facility (Bldg. 333) to customer specifications. Loading of diluted LEU for shipment.

Laboratories

1. Building 220 – analytical laboratory.
2. Building 100 – NDA laboratory.
3. Research and Development (R&D) Laboratories (Buildings 105, 110, & 131)
Facilities for conducting engineering studies and R&D of chemical and radioactive material processing, manufacturing, and treatment technologies in support of ongoing production efforts or new business development.
4. Central Analytical Laboratory (Building 105, Building 110, and the northwest portion of Building 303)
Receipt and handling of samples from all plant processing facilities (HEU, LEU, natural U, and depleted U), scrap recovery facilities, waste water treatment facilities, and select environmental monitoring programs.

Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF) (Buildings 330 and 335)

Treatment and discharge of liquid effluents generated by the process facilities, R&D laboratories, laundry, decommissioning activities, and analytical laboratory.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124
CHAPTER 1

Other Support Facilities

Warehousing

Warehouse and material storage facilities include the Industrial Park Facility (IPF) Warehouse, Buildings 250, 300, 310, 311, southeast portion of 304, south and east sections of 306, 135, 136, 133, 132, and the UNB (Bldg. 510). Non-nuclear supply storage; nuclear materials storage in sealed containers while awaiting processing, treatment, or shipment off-site; rail siding and intermodal container transfer area.

Maintenance

The maintenance facilities reside in Buildings 110B, 120, 121, 300B, and the east section of 306. The plant's primary maintenance facility is located in Buildings 120 and 121.

Respirator Facility (Building 104)

Respirator laundry; an inspection, testing, and quality assurance area; and a fit-test facility.

Medical Facility (Building 350)

Facility which includes medical facilities (e.g., medical records, examining rooms, Fitness-for-Duty testing facility, and emergency decontamination) and the in vivo counting facility.

Building 111

Storage and staging of decommissioning materials in support of ongoing decontamination and decommissioning activities. The facility may also be used for the receipt, storage, and handling of materials separately licensed by the State of Tennessee.

Administration Buildings

Buildings 105, 130 (east annex), 120 (north end), 305, 320, and 345 house offices and computer facilities.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE

SNM-124

CHAPTER 1

Plant Utilities (Bldg. 130)

Non-radioactive plant utility services (compressed air, deionized water, and steam). This building contained uranium processes in the past, and covered fixed radioactive contamination exists.

Emergency Electrical Power

Emergency electrical power is provided for the Criticality Accident Alarm System and other surveillance systems from uninterruptible power supply (UPS) systems. Automatic transfer switches detect loss of off-site power, send a start signal to diesel engine generators, transfer the load to the generators when an appropriate output voltage has been reached, and transfer back to utility power after off-site power has been restored for a predetermined time. The automatic transfer switches then allow the generators to operate for a predetermined cool-down period prior to shutdown. This automatic switchover with UPS provides for continuous criticality detection and other surveillance functions during the absence of off-site power. Emergency power generators, transfer switches, and UPS systems are periodically functionally tested.

1.1.3 General Process Description

There are two primary operations at the NFS site involving licensed material: 1) the manufacture of a classified product containing high enriched uranium and 2) the downblending of surplus DOE high enriched uranium (HEU) to low enriched uranium (LEU).

High Enriched Uranium Fuel Production Facilities

Uranium is received in various forms and then processed to make a classified product. The product is tested to verify that it meets the customer specifications and then grouped into lots. The lots are packaged and then shipped to a fabricator for manufacture into reactor fuel components. Product that does not meet customer specifications is returned to the uranium recovery area of the facility for further processing.

Blended Low Enriched Uranium (BLEU) Production Facilities

Uranyl nitrate solution is produced at the BPF by downblending HEU to LEU. The HEU consists of, but is not limited to, feed materials such as uranium oxide, uranium-metal buttons, uranium-aluminum ingots, reactor elements, and UF_6 . Incoming uranium feed materials to CDL or BPF may be converted into uranium oxide or processed as received for subsequent dissolution into uranyl nitrate solution. The HEU solutions are processed in CDL or BPF and downblended

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE

SNM-124

CHAPTER 1

with natural uranium in the BPF. The LE uranyl nitrate solution is transferred to the UNB (Bldg. 510), to the LEU Dilution and Loading Facility (Bldg. 440), or loaded directly into a shipping package at the BPF after verification that the solution meets the product specifications. Uranyl nitrate solution transferred to Bldg. 440 is diluted to meet customer specifications, loaded into shipping containers, and shipped to a fabricator for further manufacturing. Product that does not meet customer specifications is returned to the uranium recovery area of the facility for further processing.

Uranyl nitrate solution is received at the UNB from an off-site supplier via shipping containers or via pipeline from the BPF. The solution is transferred to the OCB for conversion into uranium oxide powder. The uranium oxide powder is loaded into shipping containers and shipped to a fabricator for manufacture into commercial reactor fuel bundles for ultimate transport to utility customers.

1.1.4 Raw Materials, Products, By-Products and Wastes

Various forms of uranium are used as feed materials for the classified process in the HEU Fuel Production facilities. The feed materials for the BLEU Production facilities include uranium oxide, uranium-metal buttons, uranium-aluminum ingots, reactor elements, and UF₆. The production, support, and waste processing activities are supported by a number of non-radiological chemical materials, such as bulk quantities of ammonium hydroxide, hydrogen, nitric acid, sodium hydroxide, sodium hydrosulfide, and sulfuric acid. A significant number of chemicals are used on site in lesser quantities.

Finished products containing licensed material include a classified product, uranyl nitrate solution, and uranium oxide powder.

There are no by-products produced or recovered at the NFS site that are sold for commercial use.

Liquid process wastes are collected in tanks in or near the various process buildings. Prior to pumping these wastes to the Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF), they are analyzed and must show levels below internal action guide limits. Waste water is treated in the WWTF on a batch basis, and the average discharge is approximately 15,000 gallons. Treatment typically involves adjustment of pH, and precipitation and removal of fluoride ions and uranium. The precipitate is de-watered, and the solids are packaged for land burial. The solutions may undergo ammonia removal by use of a stripping tower or by break-point chlorination prior to neutralization for discharge. The treated water is discharged directly to the Nolichucky River. A sample from each batch is collected and analyzed prior to discharge to assure compliance with 10 CFR 20 and applicable State of Tennessee regulations.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE

SNM-124

CHAPTER 1

Plant sanitary wastes are discharged through piping which goes to the City of Erwin publicly owned treatment works (POTW). The inputs for the sanitary sewer system from the NFS site include bathrooms, showers, and water from the Groundwater Treatment Facility, where groundwater is collected and treated as part of ongoing site decommissioning and remediation activities. Non-contact cooling water, treated process waste water, and sanitary sewage from the BLEU Complex (Bldgs. 510, 520, 530) facilities are also discharged to the POTW.

The NFS site produces a variety of regulated solid wastes (obsolete equipment, used ventilation filters and personal protective equipment, waste treatment residues/filter cakes, demolition debris, miscellaneous combustible wastes, etc.). Solid waste materials could be radiologically contaminated, non-contaminated, hazardous, or mixed (hazardous and radioactive). These wastes are typically containerized for shipment to a licensed disposal facility.

The site facilities discharge airborne effluents to the atmosphere via a number of process stacks. HEPA filtration and scrubber systems (i.e., venturi, demisting, packed-bed) are used as needed to remove radioactive particulates and chemicals from airborne effluents to assure compliance with 10 CFR 20 and applicable State of Tennessee regulations prior to discharge to the atmosphere.

1.2 Institutional Information

1.2.1 Corporate Identity

The full name and address of the applicant and the facility are as follows:

Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc.
1205 Banner Hill Road
Erwin, Tennessee 37650-9718

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) license number for this facility is SNM-124 (Docket Number 70-143).

The Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc., (NFS), facilities are located within the City of Erwin, in Unicoi County, Tennessee. At this site, NFS maintains buildings for administrative, laboratory, manufacturing, and support activities. The activities described in Section 1.2.4 are performed at 1205 Banner Hill Road, 1080 S. Industrial Drive, and 200 Oxide Lane. These locations are in Erwin, Tennessee.

The applicant, Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc., is incorporated in the State of Delaware, with its Corporate Offices located at 1205 Banner Hill Road, Erwin,

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE

SNM-124

CHAPTER 1

Tennessee 37650-9718. NFS is a subsidiary of NFS Holdings, Inc., which is a subsidiary of NOG-Erwin Holdings, Inc., which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BWXT Nuclear Operations Group, Inc., incorporated in Delaware. A summary listing of NFS affiliates is provided in Appendix 1A, along with a figure (Figure 1A-1) showing the reporting relationships.

1.2.2 Financial Qualifications

As a result of the indirect transfer of control in 2008 of Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc., from NFS Services, LLC, to NOG-Erwin Holdings, Inc., NFS was required to provide details to the NRC which demonstrate its financial capability to operate and decommission the Erwin facility. The financial arrangements to assure that decommissioning funds will be available are set forth in Chapter 10.

1.2.3 Type, Quantity, and Form of Licensed Material

1.2.3.1 Uranium Enriched in the ^{235}U Isotope

Maximum quantity on site – **This information is “Official Use Only” and has been moved to the “Sensitive Information” ADDENDUM.**

Isotopic content – any, up to maximum enrichment and up to an average of 10^{-6} grams of plutonium per gram of uranium, 0.25 millicuries of fission products per gram of uranium, and 1.5×10^{-5} grams of transuranic materials (including plutonium) per gram of uranium, as contaminants;

Chemical and physical forms – as described in Appendix 1B.

1.2.3.2 Uranium Enriched in the ^{233}U Isotope

1. Maximum quantity on site – **This information is “Official Use Only” and has been moved to the “Sensitive Information” ADDENDUM.**

Isotopic content – any, up to maximum enrichment;

Chemical and physical forms – any form, but limited to residual contamination from past operational activities.

2. Maximum quantity on site – **This information is “Official Use Only” and has been moved to the “Sensitive Information” ADDENDUM.**

Isotopic content – any, up to maximum enrichment;

Chemical and physical forms – any form, as received for analysis and/or for input into development studies.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124
CHAPTER 1

1.2.3.3 Plutonium

1. Counting and Calibration Standards
Maximum quantity on site – 10 millicuries as counting and calibration standards;
2. Residual Contamination and Mixed Oxide Process Holdup
 - a. Buildings 110 & 234
The possession limits, including quantity, isotopic content and chemical and physical forms, for plutonium residual contamination and mixed oxide holdups for Buildings 110 and 234 were previously described in letters dated October 17, 1988; and January 21, 1994. **This information is “Official Use Only” and has been moved to the “Sensitive Information” ADDENDUM.**
 - b. Site-Wide Decommissioning
NFS is authorized to possess residual plutonium contamination, as-is from former plutonium operations, in in-situ soil and debris, as well as waste and waste holdups that is generated during NFS plant site decommissioning activities, including Building 234.
3. Materials Input to R&D Studies
Maximum quantity on site – **This information is “Official Use Only” and has been moved to the “Sensitive Information” ADDENDUM.**
Chemical and physical forms – any form, received for analysis and/or for input into development studies.
4. Materials Received for Decontamination and Volume Reduction
Maximum quantity on site – **This information is “Official Use Only” and has been moved to the “Sensitive Information” ADDENDUM.**
Chemical and physical forms – any form, as contamination on equipment and materials received for decontamination and volume reduction.

1.2.3.4 Transuranic Isotopes

Maximum quantity on site – **This information is “Official Use Only” and has been moved to the “Sensitive Information” ADDENDUM.**
Chemical and physical forms – as waste resulting from processing enriched uranium.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE

SNM-124

CHAPTER 1

1.2.3.5 Fission Products

Maximum quantity on site – **This information is “Official Use Only” and has been moved to the “Sensitive Information” ADDENDUM.**

Chemical and physical forms – as waste resulting from processing enriched uranium.

1.2.4 Authorized Uses

This application authorizes the use of special nuclear material (SNM) for operations involving enriched uranium pursuant to 10 CFR Part 70 as listed below. Typical support activities related to the production of these products include, but are not limited to, the receipt and storage of raw materials; the storage of finished products; the preparation and transport of these products off-site; SNM recycling/recovery operations; the processing/disposal of SNM-bearing waste materials, excluding on-site burial; process and product development activities; laboratory operations; and maintenance/repair of contaminated equipment and facilities.

1.2.4.1 Product Processing Operations

1. **UF₆ Conversion**
Conversion of high enriched uranium hexafluoride to other uranium compounds.
2. **Fuel Manufacturing**
Production of fuel containing high enriched uranium.
3. **Uranium Recovery**
Recovery and purification of LEU and HEU from process scrap materials, either internally generated or generated at other facilities.
4. **Enrichment Blending and Conversion**
Enrichment blending of high enriched liquid UNH to produce a low enriched UNH solution, and conversion of downblended UNH solution to uranium oxide (U_xO_x).

1.2.4.2 Laboratory Operations

Laboratories are equipped to perform wet chemical and instrumental analyses and a wide variety of physical tests on material consisting of and/or containing special nuclear materials.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124
CHAPTER 1

1.2.4.3 General Services Operations

1. Storage of special nuclear material compounds and mixtures in areas with containers arranged specifically for maintenance of radiological and nuclear safety.
2. Maintenance and repair of special nuclear materials processing equipment and auxiliary systems.
3. Decontamination of equipment and materials, including personnel protective clothing and respiratory devices.

1.2.4.4 Research and Development Operations

Research and development work is performed on natural, source, and special nuclear material compounds and mixtures in areas with containers arranged specifically for maintenance of radiological and nuclear safety.

1.2.4.5 Waste Treatment and Disposal

1. Decontamination of materials and equipment.
2. Volume reduction, treatment, packaging and storage of both liquid and solid wastes contaminated with or containing non-recoverable uranium and plutonium.
3. Shipment of radioactive waste to licensed facilities or to licensed burial sites for disposal.
4. Treatment, packaging, and storage of hazardous or mixed waste for off-site disposal.

1.2.4.6 Period of License

The period of License No. SNM-124 is twenty-five (25) years with an expiration date of August 31, 2037.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124
CHAPTER 1

1.2.5 Special Exemptions and Special Authorizations

1.2.5.1 Criticality Monitoring

Special Nuclear Material stored in authorized shipping containers complying with the requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 10, Part 71, and which are in isolated arrays or on a transport vehicle and which are no more reactive than that approved for transport are exempt from criticality monitoring requirements of 10 CFR 70.24.

1.2.5.2 Posting and Labeling

Pursuant to the requirements of 10 CFR 20.1904(a), each entrance into a Restricted Area will be posted "Caution, Radioactive Materials, Every container or vessel within this area may contain Radioactive Materials." This is in lieu of the requirement to have a "Caution, Radioactive Material," or "Danger, Radioactive Material," label affixed to each container of licensed material. See Chapter 4 for additional details.

1.2.5.3 Contamination-Free Articles

NFS is authorized to use the limits specified in "Guidelines for Decontamination of Facilities and Equipment Prior to Release for Unrestricted Use or Termination of Licenses for Byproduct, Source, or Special Nuclear Material," U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, April, 1993, (See Chapter 4) for determining contamination levels on facilities released to uncontrolled areas, and on equipment released for unrestricted use.

1.2.5.4 Decommissioning Funding Plan

NFS is exempt from the requirements in 10 CFR 70.25(e) specifying that one of the listed methods in 10 CFR 70.25(f) must be used for financial assurance. The financial arrangements to assure that decommissioning funds will be available are set forth in Chapter 10. This exemption is limited to the use of a statement of intent (or an equivalent contract clause) from a government agency, as outlined below.

1. The exemption stated above is applicable to the decommissioning activities for which the U.S. Government has assumed liability per Appendix 10A of Chapter 10. The NFS/USDOE Contract language in said

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124
CHAPTER 1

Appendix 10A also makes it necessary for NFS to establish a cost estimate and a financial assurance plan for those decommissioning activities not covered by the Government.

2. The exemption stated above is also applicable to the decommissioning activities for which the U.S. Government has assumed liability per the U.S. Department of Energy and Tennessee Valley Authority Interagency Agreement described in Appendix 10B of Chapter 10.

1.2.5.5 Decommissioning-Related Activities Performed Prior to the End of Plant Life

Facilities or grounds may be remediated/decontaminated on a project-by-project basis prior to the end of plant life. These projects will address portions of the facility no longer in use or in need of decontamination to protect the environment. The portions of the NFS plant subject to these operations may be used for future licensed activities, require clean-up to protect the environment, or be conducted as a precursor to decommissioning an area under a NRC approved final status survey and release plan. Decommissioning-related activities, including associated procedures, are reviewed against the criteria in 10 CFR 70.38(g)(1) to determine if a decommissioning plan is required and the results of the review are documented. If required, the plan must be submitted to NRC for review and approval prior to starting the activities. Such operations are described further in Chapter 10.

1.2.5.6 Transportation of SNM

NFS is authorized to ship SNM up to and exceeding a formula quantity using physical protection measures for SNM of low strategic significance under 10 CFR 73.67(g) when certain conditions are met. The conditions are contained in the NFS Category III Physical Protection Plan. This exemption is limited to material in transit; fixed site security requirements remain unchanged.

1.2.5.7 Use of ICRP 68 DAC and ALI Values

Notwithstanding the requirements, the derived air concentration (DAC) values and the annual limit on intake (ALI) values listed in Appendix B of 10 CFR Part 20, NFS may use adjusted DAC values and adjusted ALI values specified in Publication 68 of the International Commission on Radiation Protection (ICRP-68). Additional information can be found in Section 4.7.9.1 of this application.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124
CHAPTER 1

1.2.6 Security of Classified Information

NFS has been issued a facility security clearance in accordance with 10 CFR 95.

1.2.7 Terminology/Definitions

Definitions for terms specific to a particular safety function may be given in the corresponding chapter on that function. The following definitions apply to terms used in this license:

Term	Definition
²³⁵ U Enrichments	"Low enriched uranium" is defined as any compound of uranium in which the enrichment in the isotope uranium-235 is less than 20 percent by weight. "High enriched uranium" or "highly enriched uranium" is defined as any compound of uranium in which the enrichment in the isotope uranium-235 is equal to or greater than 20 percent by weight.
Nuclear Safety	Nuclear criticality safety
Will, Shall	A requirement.
Should	A recommendation.
May	Permission (optional), neither a requirement nor a recommendation.
Are	An existing practice for which there is a requirement to continue.
Monthly	An interval not to exceed 35 days.
Quarterly	An interval not to exceed 4 months.
Semi-Annually	An interval not to exceed 7 months.
Annually	An interval not to exceed 14 months.
Biennially	An interval not to exceed 28 months.
Triennially	An interval not to exceed 42 months.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124
CHAPTER 1

Term	Definition
Criticality Control	The administrative and technical requirements established to minimize the probability of achieving inadvertent criticality in the environment analyzed.
Work Area Air Samplers	Stationary air samplers demonstrated to be representative of workers breathing air. If stationary air samplers have not been demonstrated to be representative, the results of lapel air samplers will constitute work area air samples.
Equivalent Experience	For the purpose of meeting educational requirements described throughout the license, two (2) years experience is considered to be equivalent to one (1) year of post-secondary education. For example, two (2) years of post-secondary education (associate degree) in a relevant field and four (4) years experience will satisfy the requirement for a B.S. degree (4 years of post-secondary education).
U-233 Action Levels	The action levels used for U-233 shall be those used for highly enriched uranium (HEU).
Protected Area	A site area bounded by a security barrier and outer fence, separated by an exclusion zone, designed to provide physical security. The area contains radioactive material processing, storage, and laboratory areas, as well as support functions.
Restricted Area	A site area in which individuals may be exposed to radiation or radioactive material at levels or concentrations in excess of that allowed for the general public (see definition in 10 CFR 20.1003). This could include any location at the NFS Erwin facility, depending upon activities conducted and the exposure potential as evaluated by the safety function.
Radiologically Controlled Area	A site area where uncontained radioactive material is present, such that contamination levels are likely to be encountered in excess of acceptable levels for unrestricted use. This type of area, designated for contamination control purposes, requires various levels of protective clothing and other personnel protective actions. It could include any location within the Restricted Area, either on a permanent or temporary basis.
Uncontrolled Area	A site area where radioactive materials may be handled in the form of sealed sources, in packages or closed containers, in small amounts (air samples, bioassay samples, etc.), or not at all. This type of area is designated for contamination control purposes and is not likely to have contamination at levels in excess of those acceptable for unrestricted use.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE

SNM-124 CHAPTER 1

Term	Definition
Conditions Adverse to Safety	As used in Sections 2.2, 2.5.1, and 11.6, events that could have the potential to impact the safety of licensed activities, including equipment failures, malfunctions, or deficiencies; procedure problems, errors, or omissions; improper installations; non-conformances with regulatory requirements or commitments; quality-related issues; or a significant condition, such that if uncorrected, could have a serious effect on safety.

1.3 Site Description

1.3.1 Site Geography

The NFS site is located at 1205 Banner Hill Road, inside the city limits of Erwin, in Unicoi County, Tennessee. The Protected Area of approximately 18 acres lies within approximately 70 acres of land owned by NFS. The property is situated at approximately latitude 36°07'47"N and longitude 82°25'57"W.

The facility is bounded on the north by Martin Creek; on the south by residential properties; on the east by Banner Hill Road, an asphalt roadway providing access to the NFS site; and on the west by CSX Railroad. Interstate 26 is located just west of the NFS property, within one (1) mile of the site boundary.

There are four (4) bodies of surface water adjacent to or in the immediate vicinity of the plant. The site contains a natural spring (Banner Spring), which originates on the NFS property. Banner Spring forms Banner Spring Branch, which is routed through an underground pipe across the site and empties into Martin Creek at the site boundary. Martin Creek empties into North Indian Creek approximately 3,500 feet north of the NFS site, and North Indian Creek empties into the Nolichucky River approximately one (1) mile from the site boundary.

The site is located in a southwest-to-northeast oriented valley, bounded on both sides by the Blue Ridge Mountains of the Appalachian Mountain chain. The surrounding mountains have a maximum elevation of approximately 2,480 feet above sea level. The topography of the NFS property is relatively level, with site elevations ranging from approximately 1,640 to 1,680 feet above sea level.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE

SNM-124

CHAPTER 1

1.3.2 Demographics

The NFS site is located inside the Erwin city limits. The city of Erwin, the seat of Unicoi County, has a population of approximately 6,100 people, and the population of Unicoi County is approximately 17,700 people. Approximately 2,800 people live within one (1) mile of the NFS site.

Erwin Health Care Center, a nursing home, is the only public facility within one (1) mile of the NFS site. Four other schools, Love Chapel Elementary School, Unicoi County Intermediate School, Unicoi County Middle School, and Unicoi County High School, are approximately 1.3 miles northeast of the NFS site. The nearest hospital, Unicoi County Memorial Hospital, and an adjacent nursing home, Center for Aging and Health, are approximately 1.2 miles northeast of the NFS site.

Land use within one (1) mile of the NFS site is a mixture of residential and agricultural activities, as well as several industrial facilities. The industrial facilities, including Erwin Resin Solutions, Inc., a low-level radioactive waste processing facility, are located adjacent to the southern NFS site boundary. A railroad yard owned by CSX Transportation is located adjacent to the western NFS site boundary.

The Nolichucky River, located approximately one (1) mile from the site boundary, is used primarily for recreational purposes (white water rafting, canoeing, fishing, etc.) and serves as irrigation water for agricultural activities. The Nolichucky River also serves as a source of drinking water for the Town of Jonesborough, and the water treatment plant intake is located approximately 8 miles downstream of the NFS site.

1.3.3 Meteorology

Prevailing winds at the NFS site tend to be from the southwest following the orientation of the valley, southwest to northeast. The 30-year average wind speed is 6.9 mph.

The East Tennessee region has a climate with warm, humid summers and relatively mild winters. The average total annual rainfall in the Erwin area is 37.3 inches, and the average total annual snowfall is 25 inches. The average annual temperature is 55°F, with a monthly average minimum temperature in January of 25°F and a monthly average maximum temperature in July of 87°F.

Severe storm conditions are infrequent in the Erwin area, due to the fact that the area is east of the center of tornado activity, south of most blizzard conditions, and too far inland to be affected by hurricane activity. According to National

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE

SNM-124

CHAPTER 1

Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) data since 1950 for Unicoi County, the maximum high wind recorded was 69 miles per hour.

There have been 2 tornadoes recorded in Unicoi County since 1950 which occurred in 1980 and 2011. Due to the low frequency of tornadoes in this region, no specific design criteria relative to tornadoes are required in the International Building Code.

Lightning risk at the NFS site has been addressed by evaluating facility operations and the potential for damage due to lightning strikes. See Chapter 7 for additional details.

1.3.4 Hydrology

There are four (4) bodies of surface water adjacent to or in the immediate vicinity of the plant. The site contains a natural spring (Banner Spring), which originates on the NFS property. Banner Spring forms Banner Spring Branch, which is routed through an underground pipe across the site and empties into Martin Creek at the site boundary. Martin Creek empties into North Indian Creek approximately 3,500 feet north of the NFS site, and North Indian Creek empties into the Nolichucky River approximately one (1) mile from the site boundary.

Based on the 2008 National Flood Insurance Map published by FEMA for the Erwin area, the NFS site is located outside of the 100-year floodplain of the Nolichucky River. However, the northern portion of the NFS site is located within the 100-year floodplain of Martin Creek. The culvert that allows Martin Creek to pass under the CSX Railroad was enlarged in 1990, and NFS has constructed a berm along the northern site boundary, both of which effectively lower the potential for flooding of the NFS site due to Martin Creek. The floodplain elevation mapping has not been updated to take these factors into account. Potential impacts due to flooding in facilities located in the northern portions of the NFS site are further minimized by early warning and associated mitigative efforts (removal/relocation of materials and equipment susceptible to water damage, sandbagging, etc.) during potential flooding conditions.

Depth to the water measurements taken at wells in the vicinity of the NFS site range from 5 to 19 feet below land surface, with an average of 11 feet. Groundwater elevation measurements and modeling indicate that groundwater generally flows in a northwest direction toward the Nolichucky River, which is a major discharge zone for the groundwater flowing under the NFS site, at an average rate of 0.5 to 114 feet/day, with an average of 22 feet/day. There are no known household, public, or industrial users of groundwater downgradient of the NFS site. A potentiometric surface map for the groundwater under the NFS site is included in Chapter 9.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124
CHAPTER 1

The uppermost aquifer at the NFS site is the alluvial aquifer. This alluvial aquifer is limited in areal extent and is found mainly in the lowland areas. The alluvial aquifer pinches out just north and south of the site due to the presence of shallow bedrock. Alluvial deposits are generally very heterogeneous in sediment size, composition, and depositional pattern, causing varying degrees of anisotropy throughout these deposits. The presence of large amounts of clay in suspended and mixed-load stream deposits commonly causes the vertical hydraulic conductivity to be orders of magnitude less than in a horizontal direction.

1.3.5 Geology

The NFS site lies in the Valley and Ridge physiographic province of northeastern Tennessee. The area topography consists of a series of alternating valleys and ridges that have a northeast-southeast trend, with the NFS site located in a valley. The present topography of the valley is the result of stream erosion of softer shales and limestones. The bedrock strata at the NFS site are consolidated, providing firm foundations for buildings that lie directly on the strata or that are supported by footings. Foundations for buildings that house licensed activities are supported by soil which meets the bearing capacities required by the building design.

Although common in the mountainous terrain surrounding the NFS site, slope failures are not common on the former flood plain where slopes are flat. Structures are set back sufficiently from the Nolichucky River and Martin Creek to avoid destabilization due to erosion or slope failures along the waterway banks.

The NFS site is located in the moderately active Appalachian Tectonic Belt, Seismic Zone 2, indicating that moderate damage could occur as the result of earthquakes. There is no evidence of capable faults as defined by 10 CFR 100 in the immediate vicinity of the NFS site. A seismic analysis of the NFS site conducted in 2001 determined that the horizontal component of ground motion for a safe shutdown earthquake with a 1000-year return period has a peak ground acceleration of 0.06 gravity, and the vertical acceleration is two-thirds of the horizontal, or 0.04 gravity.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124
CHAPTER 1

APPENDIX 1A

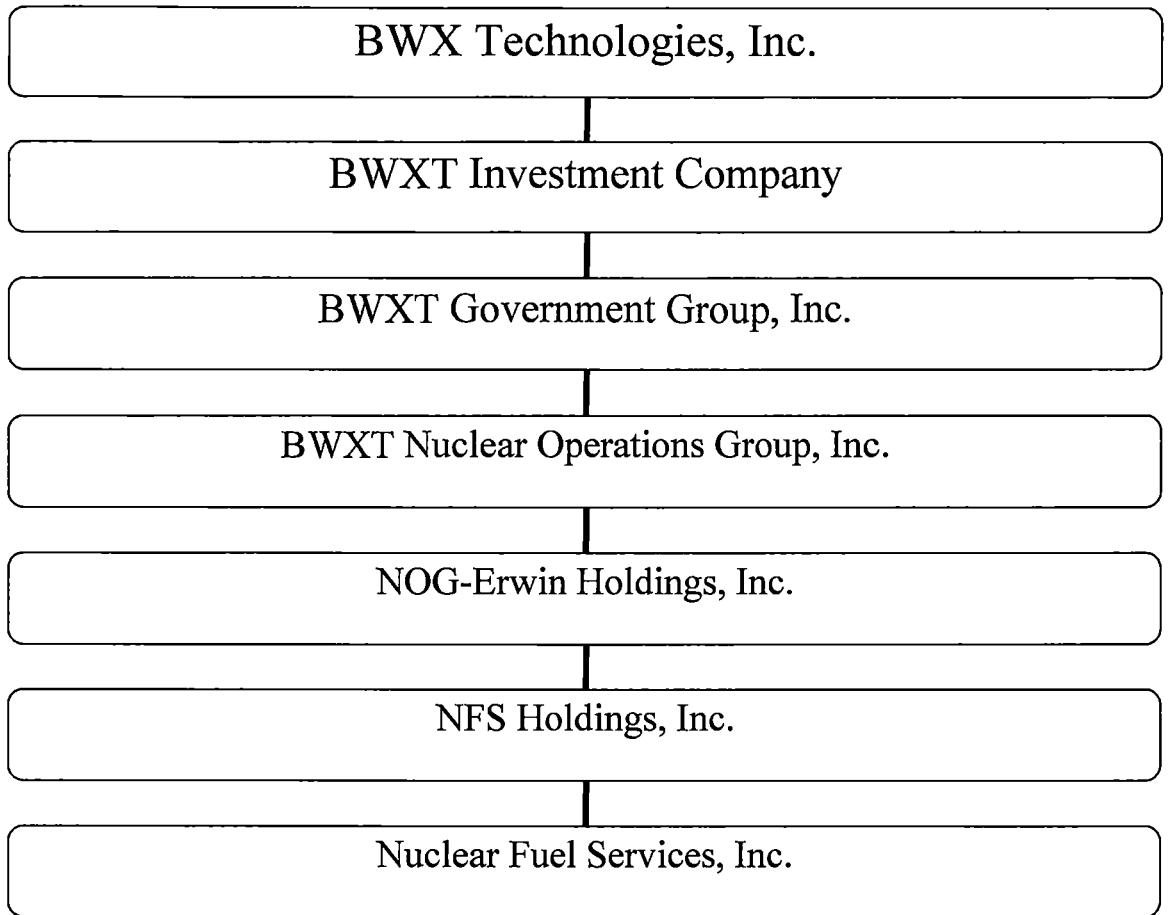
NUCLEAR FUEL SERVICES, INC.
AFFILIATES

1. **BWX Technologies, Inc.** is a corporation that owns 100% of the stock of BWXT Investment Company.
2. **BWXT Investment Company** is a corporation that owns 100% of the stock of BWXT Government Group, Inc.
3. **BWXT Government Group, Inc.**, is a corporation that owns 100% of the stock of BWXT Nuclear Operations Group, Inc.
4. **BWXT Nuclear Operations Group, Inc.**, is a corporation that owns 100% of the stock of NOG-Erwin Holdings, Inc.
5. **NOG-Erwin Holdings, Inc.**, is a corporation which owns 100% of the stock of NFS Holdings, Inc.
6. **NFS Holdings, Inc.**, is a corporation which owns 100% of the stock of Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc.
7. **Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. (NFS)**, is a manufacturer and processor of specialty nuclear fuels which is also engaged in decontamination, decommissioning, and remediation services. These services are performed at NFS' Erwin, Tennessee, location.

NOTE: This listing does not include certain affiliate companies that are not relevant to licensed activities.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124
CHAPTER 1

Figure 1A-1
NFS Corporate Structure



NOTE: This chart is a simplified organization chart and does not include certain affiliate companies that are not relevant to licensed activities.

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE
SNM-124
CHAPTER 1

APPENDIX 1B

**LISTING OF CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL
FORMS OF URANIUM AUTHORIZED**

The physical forms of uranium which may be used in licensed operations are:

Solid Forms,
Liquid Forms, and
Gaseous Forms

The following listing contains the chemical compounds of uranium which may be present in licensed operations. Other compounds may be present as transitory compounds. This listing does not include materials in which uranium may be present as a mixture:

LISTING OF URANIUM COMPOUNDS	
Compound Name	Compound Formula
Acid deficient uranyl nitrate	$\text{UO}_2 (\text{NO}_3)_x$ where x is less than 2
Ammonium diuranate	$(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{U}_2\text{O}_7$
Ammonium uranyl carbonate	$(\text{NH}_4)_4\text{UO}_2(\text{CO}_3)_3$
di-Ammonium uranylcarbonate	$2(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3\text{UO}_2\text{CO}_3\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Ammonium pentauranylfluoride	$(\text{NH}_4)_3\text{UO}_2\text{F}_5$
Potassium metauranate	K_2UO_4
Potassium uranyl acetate	$\text{KUO}_2(\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2)_3\cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$
Potassium uranyl carbonate	$2\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3\text{UO}_2\text{CO}_3$
Potassium uranyl sulfate	$\text{K}_2\text{SO}_4\text{UO}_2\text{SO}_4\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Sodium metauranate	Na_2UO_4
Sodium uranyl acetate	$\text{NaUO}_2(\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2)_3$
Sodium uranyl carbonate	$2\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3\text{UO}_2\text{CO}_3$
Uranium (metal)	U
Uranium diboride	UB_2
Uranium tetrabormide	UBr_4
Uranium tribromide	UBr_3
Uranium dicarbide	UC_2
Uranium carbide	UC_x , where x is less than 2
Uranium pentachloride	UCl_5
Uranyl hydroxide	$\text{UO}_2(\text{OH})_2$
Uranium tetrachloride	UCl_4
Uranium trichloride	UCl_3
Uranium hexafluoride	UF_6
Uranium tetrafluoride	UF_4

SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL LICENSE

SNM-124

CHAPTER 1

LISTING OF URANIUM COMPOUNDS	
Compound Name	Compound Formula
Uranium trifluoride	UF_3
Uranium hydride	UH_3
Uranium tetraiodide	UI_4
Uranium mononitride	UN
Uranium dioxide	UO_2
Uranium peroxide	$UO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$
Uranium trioxide	UO_3
triUranium octoxide	U_3O_8
Uranium sulfate	$U(SO_4)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$
Uranium sulfate	$U(SO_4)_2 \cdot 8H_2O$
Uranium sulfate	$U(SO_4)_2 \cdot 9H_2O$
Uranium disulfide	US_2
Uranium monosulfide	US
Uranium sesquisulfide	U_2S_3
Uranyl acetate	$UO_2(C_2H_3O_2)_2 \cdot 2H_2O$
Uranyl benzoate	$UO_2(C_7H_5O_2)_2$
Uranyl bromide	UO_2Br_2
Uranyl carbonate	UO_2CO_3
Uranyl perchlorate	$UO_2(ClO_4)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$
Uranyl chloride	UO_2Cl_2
Uranyl fluoride	UO_2F_2
Uranyl formate	$UO_2(CHO_2)_2 \cdot H_2O$
Uranyl iodate	$UO_2(IO_3)_2$
Uranyl iodate	$UO_2(IO_3)_2 \cdot H_2O$
Uranyl iodide	UO_2I_2
Uranyl nitrate hexahydrate	$UO_2(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$
Uranyl nitrate	$UO_2(NO_3)_2$
Uranyl nitrate hydrate	$UO_2(NO_3)_2 \cdot XH_2O$, where X is less than 6
Uranyl oxalate	$UO_2(C_2O_4)_2 \cdot 3H_2O$
Uranyl mono-H phosphate	$UO_2HPO_4 \cdot 4H_2O$
Uranyl potassium carbonate	$UO_2CO_3 \cdot 2K_2CO_3$
Uranyl sodium carbonate	$UO_2CO_3 \cdot 2Na_2CO_3$
Uranyl sulfate	$UO_2SO_4 \cdot 3H_2O$
Uranyl sulfate	$2(UO_2SO_4) \cdot 7H_2O$
Uranyl sulfide	UO_2S
Uranyl sulfite	$UO_2SO_3 \cdot 4H_2O$