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Docket Number 50-59 / License No. R-23

2016-0049

Ms. Maureen Wylie  
Chief Financial Officer  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Fee Exemption Request for Review and Approval for a Model 9979 Type AF Shipping Package

By letter dated May 3, 2016, Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) submitted a safety analysis report on behalf of Texas A&M University (TAMU) to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for review and approval for a Model 9979 Type AF Shipping Package. TAMU is currently working toward relocating its AGN-201M reactor and special nuclear material (SNM) currently housed in the Zachry Engineering Center at TAMU to a temporary storage location at the TEES Nuclear Science Center (NSC). The NSC currently maintains and operates a 1 MW TRIGA reactor. The shipping package will be used to assure safe storage, transportation and handling of the TAMU AGN-201M SNM. To assure safe handling and transportation of the AGN-201M SNM on public roadways, it requires the SNM to be packaged and transported in Type AF packages authorized by the NRC for which the AGN-201M SNM is authorized contents. The 9979 Type AF package has been identified and selected for this purpose.

This letter, pursuant to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Section 171.9, is requesting a fee waiver pursuant to 10 CFR 171.11 for the NRC review and approval of a Certificated of Compliance for the Model 9979 Type AF Shipping Package. The package will be used only for the transportation of the TAMU AGN-201M SNM.

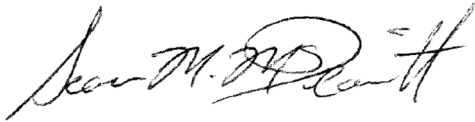
The TAMU AGN-201M reactor is a state-owned research reactor used primarily for educational training and academic research purposes. The AGN-201M reactor has been licensed by the NRC under section 104c. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2134(c)) for operation and its licensed thermal power level is 5 watts.

Therefore, TAMU requests that the NRC's recent review and approval actions regarding the Model 9979 Type AF Shipping Package be granted a fee waiver pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 171.11.(a)(2). The TAMU AGN-201M reactor meets the exemption requirement in 10 CFR 171.11.(a)(2), in that it is "State-owned research reactors used primarily for educational training and academic research purposes. For purposes of this exemption, the term research reactor means a nuclear reactor that; (i) is licensed by the NRC under section 104c of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2134(c)) for operation at a thermal power level of 10 MW or less." Subparagraph (ii) of this section pertains only to research reactors licensed to operate at a thermal power level exceeding 1 MW and is therefore not applicable to the AGN-201M.

Oath of Affirmation

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean M. McDeavitt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sean" and last name "McDeavitt" clearly legible.

Sean M. McDeavitt, PhD  
Director, TEES Nuclear Science Center

*Submitted with Level 2 Delegate Authorization from Dr. Yassin Hassan in letter dated February 8, 2016 (ADAMS  
Accession No. ML16043A048)*

CC: next page

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