

April 7, 1997

Dr. Thomas L. Bauer
Assistant Director
Nuclear Engineering Teaching Laboratory
The University of Texas at Austin
J.J. Pickle Research Campus
Building 159
Austin, Texas 78712

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE
NO. R-129 - UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN (TAC NO. M98021)

Dear Dr. Bauer:

The Commission has issued enclosed Amendment No. 2 to Facility Operating License No. R-129 for the University of Texas at Austin TRIGA Research Reactor. The amendment consists of a change to the facility operating license in response to your submittal of January 30, 1997.

The amendment corrects a typographical error in the license.

A copy of the safety evaluation supporting Amendment No. 2 is also enclosed.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Alexander Adams, Jr., Senior Project Manager
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning
Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-602

Enclosures:

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

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 7, 1997

Dr. Thomas L. Bauer
Assistant Director
Nuclear Engineering Teaching Laboratory
The University of Texas at Austin
J.J. Pickle Research Campus
Building 159
Austin, Texas 78712

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The amendment corrects a typographical error in the license.

A copy of the safety evaluation supporting Amendment No. 2 is also enclosed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alexander Adams, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Alexander Adams, Jr., Senior Project Manager
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning
Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-602

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1. Amendment No. 2
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

University of Texas

Docket No. 50-602

cc:

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Planning Office
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Austin, Texas 78711

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

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

DOCKET NO. 50-602

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 2
License No. R-129

1. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that
 - A. The application for an amendment to Facility Operating License No. R-129 filed by the University of Texas at Austin (the licensee) on January 30, 1997, conforms to the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the regulations of the Commission as stated in Chapter I of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR);
 - 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 that (i) the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public and (ii) 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. This amendment is issued in accordance with the regulations of the Commission as stated in 10 CFR Part 51, and all applicable requirements have been satisfied; and
 - F. Prior notice of this amendment is not required by 10 CFR 2.105, and publication of notice for this amendment is not required by 10 CFR 2.106.

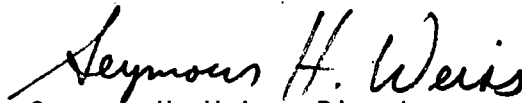
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2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to paragraph 2.B.(3) which is hereby amended to read as follows:

(3) Pursuant to the Act and 10 CFR Part 30, "Rules of General Applicability to Domestic Licensing of Byproduct Material," to receive, possess, and use a 6-curie sealed polonium-beryllium neutron source and a 2-curie sealed americium-beryllium neutron source in connection with operation of the facility; 1200 micrograms of californium-252 encapsulated in stainless steel in connection with operation of the facility; 10 kilocuries of cobalt-60 in the form of sealed stainless steel pins; up to 0.1 curie of byproduct material, atomic number 3-83, in the form of reactor components transferred from Facility Operating License No. R-92; and to possess, use, but not separate except for byproduct material produced in reactor experiments, any amount of byproduct material in the form of reactor fuel transferred from Facility Operating License No. R-92 and, such byproduct material as may be produced by operation of the facility.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Seymour H. Weiss, Director
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning
Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Date of Issuance: April 7, 1997



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. R-129

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

DOCKET NO. 50-602

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated January 30, 1997, the University of Texas at Austin (UT or licensee) submitted a request for amendment of Facility Operating License No. R-129 for the UT TRIGA Research Reactor. The requested amendment would correct a typographical error in the facility operating license.

2.0 EVALUATION

The license for the UT TRIGA Research Reactor was issued on January 17, 1992. Some of the special nuclear material and byproduct material authorized by the license was transferred from another research reactor (Facility Operating License No. R-92) that UT owned. During transcription of license conditions from the R-92 to the R-129 license an editing error occurred in that the words "6-curie polonium-beryllium neutron source" appeared in the license as "6-curie plutonium-beryllium neutron source." The error appears in license condition 2.B.(3). The licensee has requested that the license be corrected to read 6-curie polonium-beryllium neutron source. This error did not result in any regulatory issues and the correction of the error does not raise any regulatory issues because the licensee does not currently possess a polonium-beryllium neutron source and plutonium-beryllium neutron sources possessed by the licensee are held on an NRC special nuclear material license and a State of Texas license.

The staff finds this change acceptable because it corrects a typographical error in the facility license.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves changes in the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 or changes in inspection and surveillance requirements. 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 off site, and 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.

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4.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has concluded, on the basis of 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: A. Adams, Jr.

Date: April 7, 1997