



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20585

March 9, 1979

Docket No. 50-297

Mr. John T. Caldwell, Chancellor
Department of Nuclear Engineering
North Carolina State University
P. O. Box 5636
Raleigh, North Carolina 27607

Dear Mr. Caldwell:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 5 to Facility License No. R-120 for the North Carolina State University PULSTAR research reactor in response to your request dated January 31, 1979.

This amendment revises the provisions in the facility license relating to the authorized quantity of special nuclear material.

This change is necessary to correct an error which occurred during preparation of the facility license based on your application for a license under 10 CFR Part 70, dated April 9, 1970. The error was in stating the possession limit in terms of uranium dioxide rather than uranium. Because this was an editorial error, the change is administrative.

Since the amendment applies only to administrative details, it does not involve significant new safety information of a type not considered by a previous Commission safety review of the facility. It does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident, does not involve a significant decrease in a safety margin, and therefore does not involve a significant hazards consideration. We have also concluded that there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by this action.

We have evaluated the potential for environmental impact of plant operation in accordance with the enclosed amendment. We have determined that the amendment does not authorize a change in effluent types or total amounts nor an increase in power level, and will not result in

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any significant environmental impact. Having made this determination, we have further concluded that the amendment involves an action which is insignificant from the standpoint of environmental impact and pursuant to 10 CFR §51.5(d)(4) that an environmental impact statement, or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Reid

Robert W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure:
Amendment No. 5 to R-120

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

North Carolina State University

cc:

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