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GENERAL ATOMIC

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1530 MAR 24 PM - 5
March 20, 1980

In Reply
Refer To: IEL-1162

EXPORT/IMPORT
AND
INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS

XR-126
50-585

Dr. Marvin Peterson, Acting Director
Export/Import & International Safeguards
Office of International Programs
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Amendment to Application for Utilization Facility Export License;
Bangladesh.

Ref: (a) General Atomic Co. letter IEL-821, dated 5/24/77.

Dear Mr. Peterson:

General Atomic Company made application for a utilization facility export license in its May 24, 1977, application, Ref. (a). In the intervening months since May 1977, certain changes have occurred which require an amendment to our application. Among them are revised contractual and delivery dates, an increase in reactor's power level from 1 Mw thermal to 3 Mw thermal and an increase in reactor costs and certain other changes in nuclear parameters resulting from fuels being currently supplied to overseas reactors. In addition, it is our understanding that Bangladesh has now become a member of the IAEA and we understand they have agreed to apply IAEA safeguards to the reactor facility and its fuels.

General Atomic's previous application, made pursuant to 10 CFR 50, in our view, is still valid. Correspondingly we amend information in that application so that the new export license, anticipated to be issued pursuant to 10 CFR 110, will contain the desired authority for exporting the currently planned reactor facility. The necessary changes will be treated in the paragraphs below.

In our 1977 application reference was made that the fuels would be subject of an export license pursuant to 10 CFR 70 and that the export of americium-beryllium sources would be made under 10 CFR 36. The fuels' application continues to be the subject of a separate application but will now be made pursuant to 10 CFR 110. Under separate cover but essentially coincident with this letter is another letter requesting the XSNM license for the reactor fuels and fission chambers.

We understand that the agreements for cooperation are moving ahead and the export license may be issued in the near future. Accordingly we are amending the utilization facility license application and making application for the SNM at this time.

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The original application indicated the first shipment of reactor components was scheduled on or about July 1, 1978. This date has now changed to May 1981. The final shipment of fuels and components is scheduled for July 1982. The fuel loading and checkout are now scheduled for completion in November 1982. Correspondingly we request that the license be valid through at least June 1983 to accommodate any unforeseen delays in startup or the supply of faulty components under warranty repair.

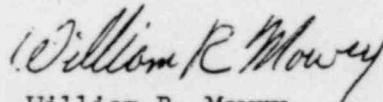
Paragraph 3, page 2, of the referenced application indicated that the cost of the items being exported would be approximately \$1.7 million. Increased costs of components and fuels now requires that a value of \$3.5 million be substituted for the value of the materials exported.

Paragraph 4, page 2, indicated a steady state power of the reactor would be approximately 1,000 kw thermal. The purchaser has exercised certain contract options and the reactor has now been designed to accommodate a steady state power of 3000 kw thermal.

Attached to the original application was a general specification sheet for the reactor. While the information in that attachment remains essentially valid, increasing the power level of the reactor with fuels currently designed for export with TRIGA requires an additional number of fuel elements and an increased loading of uranium per element. Accordingly, under the nuclear parameters sub-heading Fuels, General Atomic will be exporting to the facility approximately 110 fuel elements, each containing approximately 100 gms U-235 for a total loading of 11 kg U-235.

Other information in the application remains the same. We, therefore, request that the license be issued to authorize the export of a TRIGA Mark II Reactor to Bangladesh with power levels up to 3,000 kw thermal and having a value of ~\$3.5 million.

Very truly yours,



William R. Mowry
Licensing Administrator
Nuclear Materials Control Division

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