



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

December 19, 2019

Dr. William Charlton, Director  
Nuclear Engineering Teaching Laboratory  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Pickle Research Campus, Building 159  
10100 Burnet Road  
Austin, TX 78758

SUBJECT: UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN – EXTENSION TO REVISED SCHEDULE FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE REACTOR ANALYSES RE: RENEWAL OF FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. R-129 FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN RESEARCH REACTOR (EPID NO. L-2017-RNW-0032)

Dear Dr. Charlton:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is continuing its review of the University of Texas at Austin (UTA) application for renewal of Facility Operating License No. R-129, for the Nuclear Engineering Teaching Laboratory nuclear research reactor, dated December 12, 2011 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML12156A097), as supplemented by letter dated February 21, 2012 (ADAMS Accession No. ML12061A009). The NRC staff requested a schedule for completion of the reactor analyses, by letter dated October 18, 2018 (ADAMS Accession No. ML18262A182).

By letter dated November 25, 2019 (ADAMS Accession No. ML19337A435), the UTA staff provided a detailed status as to the work done in support of the development of the neutronics model needed to support the UTA license renewal application. Further, by telephone conference conducted on December 5, 2019, UTA staff provided additional insights into the remaining work needed to complete the neutronics model. Additionally, after discussion with the NRC staff, the UTA staff requested an extension to March 31, 2020, to complete and submit the UTA neutronics and thermal hydraulics analyses. Based on the information described above, the NRC staff finds the March 31, 2020, date to be acceptable.

Finally, the NRC staff discussed plans to conduct an audit of the UTA reactor analyses following the March 31, 2020, submittal. The audit plan details will be provided by letter at a later date.

If you have any questions, contact me at (301) 415-0893 or by electronic mail at [Geoffrey.Wertz@nrc.gov](mailto:Geoffrey.Wertz@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

***/RA by Greg A. Gasto for/***

Geoffrey A. Wertz, Project Manager  
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Division of Advanced Reactors and Non-Power  
Production and Utilization Facilities  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-602  
License No. R-129

cc: See next page

University of Texas

Docket No. 50-602

cc:

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DATED: DECEMBER 19, 2019

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**ADAMS Accession No.: ML19340A017**

**\* concurrence via email**

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