SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT PROPOSED CHANGE OF CONTROL FOR BYPRODUCT MATERIALS LICENSE NUMBER 21-18659-01, ALLEGAN GENERAL HOSPITAL

DATE:

01/22/2020

DOCKET NO.:

030-14003

LICENSE NO.:

21-18659-01

LICENSEE:

Allegan General Hospital

555 Linn St.

Allegan, MI 49010

TECHNICAL REVIEWER:

Laura B. Cender

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Allegan General Hospital is authorized by NRC License No. 21-18659-01 for the possession and use of byproduct material for purposes authorized by 10 CFR 35.100, 10 CFR 35.200, 10 CFR 35.300, and 10 CFR 35.500. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff reviewed a request for consent to an indirect license transfer submitted by Allegan General Hopsital that will result from a sale between Allegan General Hospital and Ascension Michigan resulting in Ascension Michigan becoming the sole corporate member and parent company equivalent to Allegan General Hospital. The indirect transfer of control is described in Agency Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) accession number ML19239A268.

The request for consent was reviewed by NRC staff for an indirect change in control of a 10 CFR Part 30 license using the guidance in NUREG 1556, Volume 15, Revision 1, "Consolidated Guidance About Materials Licenses - Guidance About Changes of Control and About Bankruptcy Involving Byproduct, Source, or Special Nuclear Materials Licenses." The NRC staff finds that the information submitted by Allegan General Hospital sufficiently describes and documents the transaction and commitments made by Allegan General Hospital and Ascension Michigan.

As required by 10 CFR 30.34 and section 184 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), NRC staff has reviewed the application and finds that the proposed change in control is in accordance with the Act. The staff finds that, after the change of control, Ascension Allegan Hospital will be qualified to use byproduct material for the purpose requested, and will continue to have the equipment, facilities, and procedures needed to protect public health and safety, and promotes the security of licensed material.

SAFETY AND SECURITY REVIEW

According to data obtained from the NRC's Web Based Licensing System (WBL), Allegan General Hospital has been an NRC licensee since 1979. The NRC conducted a main office inspection of Allegan General Hospital on August 20, 2019 and no violations were identified during this inspection. The commitments made by Ascension Michigan and Allegan General Hospital state that Allegan General Hospital (License No. 21-18659-01):

A. will not change the radiation safety officer listed in the NRC license;

- B. will not change the personnel involved in licensed activities;
- C. will not change the locations, facilities, and equipment authorized in the NRC license;
- D. will not change the radiation safety program authorized in the NRC license;
- E. will keep regulatory required surveillance records and decommissioning records; and
- F. will change the organization's name listed in the NRC license to Ascension Allegan Hospital.

Ascension Michigan currently has eleven subsidiary hospitals and imaging centers that possess NRC licenses. Ascension Michigan is the parent company to Ascension Borgess Hospital which currently holds NRC License No. 21-12275-02 authorizing byproduct material for multiple modalities of use permited by 10 CFR Part 35. Therefore, for security purposes, Ascension Michigan is considered a known entity following the guidance provided by the NRC's Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) 'Checklist to provide a basis for confidence that radioactive materials will be used as specified on the application," January 29, 2019 revision. The purpose of this checklist is for the NRC to obtain reasonable assurance from new license applicants or NRC licensees transferring control of licensed activities that the licensed material will be used for its intended purpose and not for malevolent use.

Allegan General Hospital is not required to have decommissioning financial assurance based on the types and amount of material authorized in License No. 21-18659-01.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Allegan General Hospital's License No. 21-18659-01, was issued under 10 CFR Part 30, Rules of General Applicability to Domestic Licensing of Byproduct Material. The Commission is required by 10 CFR 30.34 to determine if the change of control is in accordance with the provisions of the Act and give its consent in writing.

10 CFR 30.34(b) states: "No license issued or granted pursuant to the regulations in this part and parts 31 through 36, and 39 nor any right under a license shall be transferred, assigned or in any manner disposed of, either voluntarily or involuntarily, directly or indirectly, through transfer of control of any license to any person, unless the Commission shall, after securing full information, find that the transfer is in accordance with the provisions of the Act and shall give its consent in writing."

As previously indicated, the staff evaluation is based on guidance in NUREG-1556, Volume 15, Revision 1. As discussed in NUREG-1556, Volume 15, Revision 1, NRC is generally using the term "change of control" rather than the statutory term "transfer" to describe the variety of events that could require prior notification and written consent of the NRC. The central issue is whether the authority over the license has changed. Allegan General Hospital's request for consent describes an indirect change of control resulting from a planned sale between Allegan General Hospital and Ascension Michigan. Following the completion of the sale, Ascension Michigan will become the parent company of Allegan General Hospital and, as such, the transfer requires NRC consent.

DESCRIPTION OF TRANSACTION

The transaction is described in ADAMS accession number ML19239A268. After completion of the transaction, Allegan General Hospital (i.e. Ascension Allegan Hospital pending amendment) will continue as the licensee and remain in control of all licensed activities under Materials License No. 21-18659-01. The NRC staff finds that the request for consent adequately provides a complete and clear description of the transaction, and is consistent with the guidance provided in Appendix E of NUREG-1556, Volume 15, Revision 1.

TRANSFEREE'S COMMITMENT TO ABIDE BY THE TRANSFEROR'S COMMITMENTS

The NRC staff finds that the information submitted by Allegan General Hospital sufficiently describes and documents the commitments made by Allegan General Hospital and Ascension Michigan, and is consistent with the guidance in NUREG-1556, Volume 15, Revision 1.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

An environmental assessment for this action is not required since this action is categorically excluded under 10 CFR 51.22(c)(14)(xi).

CONCLUSION

The staff has reviewed the request for consent submitted by both parties with regard to an indirect change of control of byproduct materials license No. 21-18659-01 and approves the application pursuant to 10 CFR 30.34(b).

The submitted information sufficiently describes the transaction; documents the understanding of the license and commitments; demonstrates that personnel have the experience and training to properly implement and maintain the license and that they will maintain the existing records; And, in the future, will abide by all existing commitments to the license, consistent with the guidance in NUREG-1556, Volume 15, Revision 1.

Therefore, the staff concludes that the proposed change in control would not alter the previous findings, made under 10 CFR Part 30, that licensed operations will not be inimical to the common defense and security, or to the health and safety of the public.