

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDOCKET NO. 50-139THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTONNOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION FOR
RENEWAL OF FACILITY LICENSE

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering renewal of Facility License No. R-73, as a possession only license from the present operating license, issued to the University of Washington for the Argonaut reactor located on the campus of the University in Seattle, Washington.

The renewal would extend the expiration date of Facility License No. R-73 to February 14, 1999, in accordance with the licensee's timely application for renewal as a possession only license by letter dated August 3, 23 and 31, 1989 and as modified on February 14, 1994. The operating license was modified by Amendment No. 15 to the license on May 7, 1990, to not permit possession of fuel on the site since all fuel had been removed from the facility and returned to its owner, the Department of Energy. The licensee is developing a plan to decommission the facility, and it is anticipated that the term of renewal will be sufficient to complete decommissioning and terminate the license.

Prior to a decision to renew the license as a possession only license, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations.

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By April 18, 1994, the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to renewal of the subject facility license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written request for a hearing and petition for leave to intervene. Requests for hearing and petitions for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. Interested persons should consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.714 which is available at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20555. If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the request and/or petition; and the Secretary of the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR 2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) the nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made a party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the

proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to fifteen (15) days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above.

Not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene which must include a list of the contentions which are sought to be litigated in the matter. Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted. In addition, the petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of the contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or expert opinion which support the contention and on which the petitioner intends to rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the petitioner is aware and on which the petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. Petitioner must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. The contention must be one which, if proven, would entitle the petitioner to relief. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, at 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC by the above date. Where petitions are filed during the last ten (10) days of the notice period, it is requested that the petitioner promptly so inform the Commission by a toll-free telephone call to Western Union at 1-(800) 325-6000 (in Missouri 1-(800) 342-6700). The Western Union operator should be given Datagram Identification Number 3737 and the following message addressed to Seymour H. Weiss: petitioner's name and telephone number; date petition was mailed; The University of Washington; and publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555 and to Ms. Christine Hughes, Division Chief and Special Assistant to the Attorney General, University of Washington, 101 Administration, MS: AF-50, Seattle, Washington 98195, attorney for the licensee.

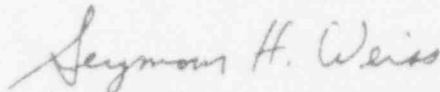
Nontimely, filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or the

presiding Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1)(i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for renewal dated August 3, 23 and 31, 1989, and as modified on February 14, 1994, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room at 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20555.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 11th day of March 1994.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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