

DCS-014

Docket No. 50-407

Dr. Harold Jacobs
Reactor Administrator
College of Engineering
2000 Merrill Engineering Building
University of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah 24112

Dear Dr. Jacobs:

The Operating License, No. R-126, for your TRIGA reactor facility is scheduled to expire on April 23, 1983. This letter is to remind you of that, and to provide you guidance in the event that you intend to continue operation and request a renewal of the license. Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR 2.109) allows continued operation under your current license provided the application to renew your license is received 30 days prior to expiration of your current license.

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) currently considers the renewal of a facility operating license to be equivalent to reissuing the license. Therefore, renewal is not merely a routine administrative step, but involves in-depth reviews of all documentation related to the facility, the publication in the Federal Register of both a notice of your request, and a notice of renewal, if appropriate, following our review, and the issuance by NRC of both our Safety Evaluation Report, and an Environmental Impact Assessment.

In order for us to perform an adequate review, you are requested to include, as part of your application, all of the following documentation.

1. Updated or Revised Final Safety Analysis Report (SAR). This may rely on and reference your existing SAR where it is appropriate and still applicable. It should update any information, modifications, or obsolete features of the facility. As appropriate, quantitative analyses should use best current input data and computational techniques, and operating experience.
2. Financial Qualification to Continue Operation. This can be by way of the most recent annual financial report of the University, if it shows the budgeting for reactor operations. You should also provide your evaluation of the financial planning for eventual decommissioning and safe disposition of the reactor facility.

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3. Environmental Data and Discussion. This should provide sufficient operational data, analyses, and discussion to provide a substantial basis for NRC to develop its Environmental Impact Appraisal (see enclosure 1).
4. Technical Specifications. We have a copy of your currently approved Technical Specifications. However, we are attempting at license renewal time to standardize the technical specifications for research reactors in accordance with the ANS 15.1 standard, using the May 1982 Draft, or the final ANSI/ANS version if available. You are requested to review your tech specs and make any changes necessary to achieve format compatibility with this standard. Furthermore, if there are some changes to your tech specs which you would like to make, please request them for consideration in connection with our review for renewal of your license.
5. Operator Requalification Program. Provide a copy of your currently approved and implemented program to ensure that it is reviewed in the context of current NRC practice.
6. Emergency Plan. You have recently submitted the plan in accordance with 10 CFR 50.54(r), as amended, and guidance provided to you separately by NRC. This plan is under review, and will be completed in connection with the general review for renewal of your license.
7. Physical Security Plan. You have an approved plan. If there are any significant reasons why you would like to make changes in that plan, please request those changes for our review in connection with our general review for renewal of your license.

For your further guidance, we are enclosing the following.

- 1) A copy of a recently issued Environmental Impact Appraisal (Washington State University (WSU)).
- 2) A copy of a recently issued Safety Evaluation Report (SER) (WSU).
- 3) A summary of the information the NRC staff reviewed in connection with developing the SER.
- 4) A copy of the Technical Specifications recently approved for a TRIGA-fueled reactor (WSU).

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Dr. Harold Jacobs

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Upon our completion of the technical reviews and favorable evaluation of your facility, similar documents will be issued in conjunction with renewal of your facility operating license.

If you have further questions or comments, please contact Robert Carter 301-492-9795, our licensing project manager for your facility.

Sincerely,

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Cecil O. Thomas, Chief
Standardization & Special
Projects Branch
Division of Licensing

Enclosures:
As stated

DISTRIBUTION: *w/o enclosures*

- Document Control
- NRC PDR
- L PDR
- NSIC
- NTIS
- Gray File
- Region IV
- SSPB Reading
- R. Carter
- P. Anderson
- C. Thomas
- Attorney, OELD
- D. Eisenhut/R. Purple
- F. Miraglia
- L. Tremper
- R. Diggs
- L. J. Harmon, IE (2)
- T. Barnhart (4)
- W. Jones, DMP

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