



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 32 TO

AMENDED FACILITY LICENSE NO. R-38

GENERAL ATOMICS

DOCKET NO. 50-89

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated January 7, 1994, as supplemented on February 24, 1994, General Atomics (GA or licensee) submitted a request for amendment to Appendix A of Amended Facility License No. R-38, Technical Specifications for the Torrey Pines TRIGA Mark I Reactor. The requested amendment would remove reference to the Associate Physicist-in-Charge (PIC) and Deputy PIC from Technical Specification (TS) 9.4(a).

2.0 EVALUATION

The licensee has requested that TS 9.4(a) be amended. TS 9.4(a) currently reads:

The Physicist-in-Charge, Associate Physicist-in-Charge, or Deputy Physicist-in-Charge shall be notified and corrective action taken with respect to the operation involved.

The licensee has requested that the TS be amended to read:

The Physicist-in-Charge or designated alternative shall be notified and corrective action taken with respect to the operation involved.

This change removes from the TS the titles of Associate and Deputy PIC. This is the only reference to these titles in the TS (the TS do not contain any requirement for the qualifications of these titles) and the titles do not appear in the TS for the other non-power reactor GA has on the site, the TRIGA Mark F reactor (Docket No. 50-163, License No. R-67). GA has requested this change due to consolidation of the reactor operating organization as a result of funding changes. The position of PIC will continue to exist. In the absence of the PIC, the requested TS wording requires that an designated alternative be appointed. The designated alternative will be a senior reactor operator ensuring that qualified persons will be notified of reportable occurrences.

The staff finds that this change is acceptable because the PIC or a designated qualified alternative person will continue to be notified of reportable occurrences by the reactor operating staff.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves changes in recordkeeping, reporting, or administrative procedures or requirements. Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(10). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no Environmental Impact Statement or Environmental Assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) because the amendment does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of accidents previously evaluated, or create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated, and does not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety, the amendment does not involve a significant hazards consideration, (2) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by the proposed activities, and (3) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: A. Adams, Jr.

Date: March 24, 1994