



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 29 TO

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. R-2

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

DOCKET NO. 50-5

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated June 11, 1990, Pennsylvania State University (the University) filed with the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission a physical security plan for the protection of the nuclear material of low strategic significance. The plan, which is exempt from public disclosure pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.790(d), is entitled, "The Physical Security Plan for the Pennsylvania State University Breazeale Reactor," dated June 11, 1990.

2.0 EVALUATION

The following summarizes how the University has provided for meeting the fixed site requirements of 10 CFR Part 73.

2.1 STORAGE AND USE OF SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIALS OF LOW STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE

To satisfy the requirements of 10 CFR 73.67(f)(1) the University has established permanent controlled access areas (CAA's) which are clearly demarcated, access to which is controlled and which affords isolation of the materials or persons within them. Demarcation of the CAA's are provided through the use of normal construction type material. Unescorted access to the CAA's is limited to authorized individuals and is controlled through the use of a key and lock system. Visitors to the CAA's are controlled through the use of an escort system.

2.2 MONITORING CONTROLLED ACCESS AREAS TO DETECT UNAUTHORIZED PENETRATIONS OR ACTIVITIES

To satisfy the requirements of 10 CFR 73.67(f)(2) the University monitors the CAA's with intrusion detection systems and through visual observation by authorized individuals. Administrative surveillance procedures for the CAA's have been established which will insure early detection of an attempted theft of material upon failure of any part of the intrusion detection system.

2.3 RESPONSE TO UNAUTHORIZED PENETRATIONS OR ACTIVITIES

To satisfy the requirements of 10 CFR 73.67(f)(3) the University designated the Pennsylvania State University Police Services Department as the primary response force to be used in response to unauthorized penetrations or activities at the reactor facility. Back-up law enforcement is provided by State College Borough Police Department and the Pennsylvania State Police.

2.4 PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH THREATS AND THEFTS OF SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL

To satisfy the requirements of 10 CFR 73.67(f)(4) the University has established and is maintaining procedures for response to specific events relating to security of special nuclear material of low strategic significance. The response procedures describe the type of response, the duties and responsibilities of the security organization and management involved in the response.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves changes relating solely to safeguards matters or issuance of an approval of a safeguards plan submitted pursuant to Parts 50, 70, 72, and 73 of this chapter, and does not involve any significant construction impacts. This amendment and approvals are confined to (i) organizational and procedural matters, (ii) modifications to systems used for security and/or materials accountability, (iii) administrative changes, and (iv) review and approval of transportation routes pursuant to 10 CFR 73.37.

Accordingly, this amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(12). 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

Based on review of the subject document, the staff has concluded that the protection measures identified in the physical security plan meet the requirements of 10 CFR Part 73 for special nuclear material of low strategic significance and is therefore acceptable.

The staff has also 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.

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Dated: February 14, 1991