



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 15 TO

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. R-75

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

DOCKET NO. 50-150

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated August 28, 1995, Ohio State University (the licensee) requested that their Technical Specifications (TS) be revised to change the meeting frequency, the quorum requirements to conduct a meeting, and to delete the requirement to approve changes to procedures for the Reactor Operations Committee (ROC).

2.0 EVALUATION

The present ROC meeting frequency as specified in TS 6.2.2 is at least once each quarter. The licensee finds that it is, at times, difficult to convene the necessary quorum of ROC members to meet this frequency requirement, and has requested that the frequency be decreased to at least twice each year.

The staff notes that the American National Standards for the Development of Technical Specifications for Research Reactors, ANSI/ANS-15.1-1990, in Section 6.2.2, allows a frequency for ROC meetings of at least once per year. The licensee has stated that he plans to have more than the proposed two meetings a year. The staff finds that the proposed ROC meeting frequency of at least twice each year, to occur on or about six month intervals, acceptable.

The present TS in 6.2.2(2) do not permit ex-officio members to be counted as a member of the quorum for holding an ROC meeting. The licensee is proposing to allow ex-officio members to be counted in the total for a quorum, which is five, for holding an ROC meeting. The TS in 6.2.1 define the ex-officio members as being the Director and Associate Director of the Nuclear Reactor Laboratory, and the Director of the Office of Radiation Safety. The Provost is also an ex-officio member but the TS in 6.2.2(1) do not permit the Provost to be counted to make up a quorum and the licensee is not proposing to change this. Thus, under the licensee's proposed change, a quorum could be gathered with three ex-officio members and two other members of the ROC such as faculty etc., not associated with operation of the reactor.

ANSI/ANS-15.1-1990, Section 6.2.2(2), recommends that a quorum be formed with not less than one-half of the membership where the operating staff does not constitute a majority. Since there are only two ex-officio members who are part of the operating staff, i.e., the Director and Associate Director of the Nuclear Reactor Laboratory, the ANSI recommendation is fulfilled. The Director of the Radiation Safety Office is not considered to be a member of the operating staff of the reactor. The staff finds it acceptable that ex-officio members of the ROC be counted in the totals to establish a quorum.

The last change deals with the fact that the present TS require procedures be reviewed and approved by the ROC. ANSI/ANS-15.1-1990 does not require that the ROC approve procedural changes, only that they be reviewed. This was also recommended by a recent Test Research and Training Reactor peer review group that audited the reactor, which recommended that the ROC only review procedures, and that the approval process be handled by the reactor staff. The staff finds this acceptable and TS 6.2.4(2) and 6.3.1 have been revised accordingly.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves changes in administrative requirements. Accordingly, this 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) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by the proposed activities, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulation, and (3) 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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Date: November 13, 1995