



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 16 TO

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. R-75

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

DOCKET NO. 50-150

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated October 10, 1995, Ohio State University (the licensee) requested that License Condition 2.B be changed to more accurately describe the enrichment of their fuel. Also, since the quantity and enrichment of the possessed fuel is less than 10 kilograms and less than 20 percent enriched, a physical security plan is no longer needed and should be deleted from the license.

2.0 EVALUATION

Amendment No. 12 to the Ohio State License authorized the conversion from high enriched uranium (HEU) fuel to low enriched uranium (LEU) fuel. LEU fuel is defined in 10 CFR Part 50 as fuel in which the weight percent of U-235 in the uranium is less than 20 percent. License Condition 2.B which authorized the possession of LEU was not as accurate as it should have been stated since it authorized possession of 5.2 kilograms of uranium-235 at enrichments equal to or less than 20 percent. The licensee has verified that the most highly enriched fuel plate is 19.7832 U-235. Therefore, a more accurate statement of the enrichment level is that the enrichment level is less than 20 percent, and to eliminate the reference to equal. License Condition 2.B has been changed accordingly.

Given that all LEU fuel at the facility is enriched to less than 20 percent, and that the quantity of LEU is less than 10 kilograms, and that all HEU fuel was shipped offsite in June 1995, the licensee has requested that the requirement to have a physical security plan be deleted. The staff agrees with the licensee since a physical security plan is only required for SNM of low strategic significance if the quantity of material is 10 kilograms or more. (See 10 CFR 73.67 (c)) The licensee is only authorized to possess 5.2 kilograms, and therefore, a physical security plan is no longer needed. However, security of SNM of low strategic significance in quantities that the licensee possesses must be provided in accordance with 10 CFR 73.67(f), and the licensee is aware of this requirement. The staff finds that deletion of the physical security plan is acceptable.

Since the HEU has been removed from the facility, License Condition 2.D, which authorized the licensee to possess high enriched uranium fuel until such time as it was removed from the facility, is no longer needed and has been deleted.

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.

Principal Contributor: Theodore S. Michaels

Date: December 4, 1995