



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

April 10, 2020

Dr. Wei Ji, Director
Reactor Critical Facility
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
JEC Room 5040
110 8th Street
Troy, NY 12180-3590

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF THE APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE AMENDMENT RE:
NEW DEFINITION OF FACILITY'S RESTRICTED AND EXCLUSION AREAS
(EPID L-2019-LLA-0254)

Dear Dr. Ji:

By letter dated July 11, 2019 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML19205A066), as supplemented by letter dated February 20, 2020 (ADAMS Accession No. ML20057D420), Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute applied for an amendment to Facility Operating License No. CX-22 for the Critical Experiments Facility. The license amendment request (LAR) proposes a new definition related to the restricted and exclusion areas in its technical specifications (TSs). Consistent with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.90, "Application for amendment of license, construction permit, or early site permit," an application to amend the license (including the TSs) must fully describe the changes desired and follow, as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. The requirements in 10 CFR 50.34, "Contents of applications; technical information," cover the technical information to be included in the application and stipulate that it addresses design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff performed an acceptance review of the LAR and concluded that it includes sufficient information for the NRC staff to begin its detailed technical review. Notwithstanding the acceptance review, the NRC staff may require additional information to complete the detailed technical review. If needed, the NRC staff will request this information by separate correspondence within approximately 60 days of the date of this letter.

Based on the acceptance review and discussions by telephone on April 10, 2020, the NRC staff expects to complete its review and make a final determination on the LAR by April 9, 2021. This date could change due to several factors, including requests for additional information, unanticipated changes to the scope of the review, unsolicited supplements to the LAR, and others. If the forecasted date changes, the NRC staff will notify you in writing of the new date and an explanation of the reason for the change.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1404 or by electronic mail at Xiaosong.Yin@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Xiaosong Yin, Project Manager
Non-Power Production and Utilization
Facility Licensing Branch
Division of Advanced Reactors and Non-Power
Production and Utilization Facilities
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 05-225
License No. CX-22

cc: See next page

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Docket No. 05-225

cc:

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Test, Research, and Training
Reactor Newsletter
Attention: Ms. Amber Johnson
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University of Maryland
4418 Stadium Drive
College Road, MD 20742-2115

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NEW DEFINITION OF FACILITY'S RESTRICTED AND EXCLUSION AREAS
(EPID L-2019-LLA-0254) DATED: April 10, 2020

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ADAMS Accession No. ML20099F900

***concurrent via email**

NRR-106

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