

December 18, 1996

NOTE TO: File

FROM: Amar Datta Original signed by:  
Licensing Section 2  
Licensing Branch  
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety  
and Safeguards, NMSS

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FIRE SAFETY REVIEW

My assessment of the Department of Commerce-NIST facility follows:

The licensee's facilities and buildings complied with applicable regulations for federal facilities at the time of construction. Installed fire protection systems include smoke detectors, heat detectors, fire alarm pull-boxes, standpipes, and sprinkler systems in a few areas of moderate fire load. Fire loads in most areas are light. Portable extinguishers are deployed in all the buildings in accordance with industry standards.

An underground fire main supplied by the local municipal water system provides fire protection water to the facility. There is an adequate number of hydrants. The fire detectors and other alarm sensors transmit the alarm signal to a console at the fire station, which is continuously manned.

NIST Facilities Services Division has a Fire Chief, who is responsible for operating the fire station, as well as periodical fire safety reviews of the various buildings. The Fire Chief also reviews proposed changes of the facilities and processes. A group of trained fire fighters man the fire station, whose equipment include two pumpers and an ambulance.

A Pre-Fire Plan is available at the fire station, which provides information of the location and the contents of an area where an alarm originates. The fire fighters attend regular training sessions and hold several fire drills a year.

Considering all of the above, NIST maintains an adequate level of fire protection at its facilities.

Docket 70-398  
License SNM-362

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

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FROM: Amer Datta  
Licensing Section 2  
Licensing Branch  
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety  
and Safeguards, NMSS

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Amer Datta", is written over the "FROM:" section.

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