



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 33 TO

FACILITY LICENSE NO. R-2

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

DOCKET NO. 50-5

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated September 15, 1998, the Pennsylvania State University (Penn State or the licensee) submitted a request for amendment to Amended Facility License No. R-2 and Appendix A, Technical Specifications (TSs) for the Penn State Breazeale Research Reactor. The amendment updates organizational structure.

2.0 EVALUATION

The licensee indicated that the Nuclear Engineering Department and the Mechanical Engineering Department merged to form the Department of Mechanical Nuclear Engineering. With this change, the Director, Penn State Breazeale Reactor, reports to the Chair, Nuclear Engineering Program, not to the Nuclear Engineering Department Head.

In a separate organizational change, the reporting chain for Assistant Vice President for Safety and Environmental Services was changed to Vice President for Physical Plant. The reporting chain for the Vice President of Physical Plant has changed due to the retirement of the Assistant Vice President for Safety and Environmental Services.

These changes do not affect the responsibilities and qualification requirements in the TSs, and therefore, are acceptable.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment involves changes in recordkeeping, reporting, or administrative procedures or requirements. Accordingly, this amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(10)(ii). 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.

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4.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has 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.

Principal Contributor: M. M. Mendonca

Date: October 20, 1998