



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 13 TO

FACILITY LICENSE NO. R-97

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

DOCKET NO. 50-160

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated August 20, 1998, the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech or the licensee) submitted a request for amendment to Amended Facility License No. R-97 and for the Georgia Tech Research Reactor. The amendment deletes the requirements to have a security plan.

2.0 EVALUATION

The licensee indicated that by License Amendment No. 12 authorization to possess special nuclear material was removed. The licensee also indicated that no special nuclear material was at the facility under the research reactor license. This places the facility below the possession limits for special nuclear material for low strategic significance. Therefore, in accordance with the requirement of 10 CFR 73.67 no security plan is required. The NRC staff notes that the provisions of 10 CFR Parts 20 and 30 continue to apply for radiation protection and possession of the byproduct material. Based on the above, the deletion of the security plan requirement is 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.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has further 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: November 4, 1998