

APR 16 1986

SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT

DOCKET NO.: 070-00925
APPLICANT: Sequoyah Fuels Corporation
FACILITY: Cimarron Uranium Plant
SUBJECT: REVIEW OF LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST, AMENDMENT NO. 04

Background

On March 31, 1983, Kerr McGee-Sequoyah Fuels was issued the renewal of License Number SNM-928 which specified a maximum possession limit of 1200 grams of special nuclear material enriched to a maximum 5.0 weight percent uranium-235. On March 3, 1986, the licensee requested an increase in possession limit to 6,000 grams to cover additional contamination. Recent levels of uranium contamination found in solids removed from the sanitary lagoons indicate that the total amount of uranium-235 at the facility may have exceeded 1200 grams of uranium-235.

Discussion

Since the license is limited to a maximum enrichment of 5 percent, the 6kg limit remains below one effective kilogram as defined in Part 70.

Nuclear and Radiological Safety

Enriched uranium possessed under this license is primarily in the form of contaminated equipment. The likelihood of achieving accidental criticality under this circumstance is acceptably low. Radiation safety procedures which were approved at the time the renewal license was issued are adequate to assure safe operations. In addition, on January 6-10, 1986, Mr. G. M. France, III, NRC, Region III, conducted an on-site inspection of the area of concern and concurs that the present exemption from 70.24 should be continued. (See Inspection Report 70-0925/86001 DRSS.)

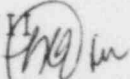
B605070517 B60416
REG3 LIC70
SNM-0928 PDR

Recommendation

In view of the above, it is recommended that the license be amended as requested by Kerr McGee-Sequoyah Fuels.

Original Signed By
G. M. France, III
Facilities Radiation
and Protection Section

Approved: Original signed by Greger/BSM
L. R. Greger, Chief
Facilities Radiation
and Protection Section

R111

France/cm
4/ /86

R111

Greger