

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
REGARDING PROPOSED ORDER AUTHORIZING DISMANTLING OF THE
REACTOR AND DISPOSITION OF COMPONENT PARTS
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
DOCKET NO. 50- 112

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is considering issuance of an Order authorizing the University of Oklahoma (licensee) to dismantle the AGN 211P Nuclear Reactor in Norman, Oklahoma and to dispose of the reactor components in accordance with the application dated October 25, 1988, as supplemented.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action: By application dated October 25, 1988, as supplemented, the licensee requested authorization to dismantle the 100 watt (thermal) University of Oklahoma Research Reactor (UORR), to dispose of its components parts and radioactive material, and decontaminate the facility in accordance with the proposed dismantling plan, and to terminate Facility License No. R-53. The UORR was shut down in April 1986, and has not been operated since then. The reactor fuel has been removed from the facility and shipped to Department of Energy facilities in accordance with DOE, NRC, and DOT requirements.

Need for Proposed Action: In order to prepare the facility for unrestricted access and use, the dismantling and decontamination activities proposed by UORR must be accomplished.

Environmental Impact of the Proposed Action: All decontamination will be performed by trained personnel in accordance with previously reviewed procedures and will be overseen by experienced health physics staff. Solid and liquid waste will be removed from the facility and managed in accordance with NRC requirements. The operations are calculated to result in a total radiation exposure of less than 1 person-rem to facility staff and the public.

These conclusions were based on the fact that all proposed operations are carefully planned and controlled, all contaminated components are removed, packaged, and shipped offsite, and that the radiological control procedures ensure that releases of radioactive wastes from the facility are within the limits of 10 CFR Part 20 and are as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA).

Based on the review of the specific proposed activities associated with the dismantling and decontamination of the UORR facility, the staff has determined that there will be no significant increase in the amounts of effluents that may be released offsite, and no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational or population radiation exposure.

Alternative Use of Resources: The only alternative to the proposed dismantling and decontamination activities is to maintain the facility as a restricted area. This approach would include monitoring and reporting for the duration of the safe storage period. However, the facility management intends to use the area for other purposes.

Agencies and Persons Consulted: The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

Finding of No Significant Impact

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action based upon the foregoing environmental assessment. We conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For detailed information with respect to this proposed action, see the application for dismantling, decontamination and license termination dated October 25, 1988, as supplemented and the Safety Evaluation prepared by the staff. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street N.W., Washington, D. C. 20555.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 26th day of May 1989.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Dino C. Scaletti

Dino C. Scaletti, Acting Director
Standardization and Non-Power
Reactor Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Projects - III, IV,
V and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation