Nuclear Security and Safeguards

NRC Project Number 99902088 supporting pre-application licensing activities

Dr. Rusty Towell

NEXT Lab Director, Abilene Christian University

November 3, 2020



Topics

- ACU Police Department & campus security infrastructure
- Potential Special Nuclear Material (SNM) Inventory
- MSRR reactor design features potentially related to security

Facility to be Licensed as a Research Reactor

- Non-Power Utilization Facility
- Molten Salt Research Reactor (MSRR)

Licensed under AEA Section 104c pursuant to 10 CFR 50.21(c)

Activities Under the 10 CFR Part 50 Facility License

10 CFR Part 70, license to receive, possess, and use SNM

10 CFR Part 30, license to receive, possess and use byproduct material

Full-service law enforcement agency

- 24/7/365 operations
- 14 Full-time Police Officers/6 Civilian Staff
- All ACUPD officers are fully certified/armed Texas police officers
- Formal Working Agreement w/ Abilene Police Dept.
 - Joint 800 MHz radios system/dispatch
 - Full jurisdiction on/off-campus
- Primary Response 24/7 to area Alarms
- Close working relationship with local, State DPS, FBI

ACU Police Department



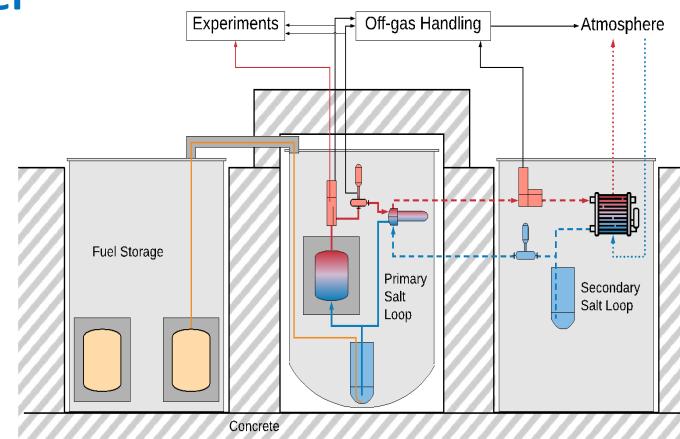
City of Abilene Police Department



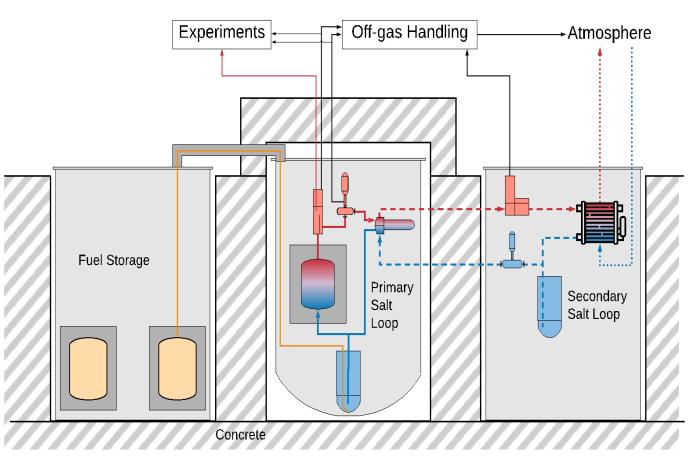
- 287 Combined (Sworn & Civilian)
- Recognized Agency- Texas Police Chiefs Association
- Event Response:
 - Co-Jurisdiction with ACUPD
 - Backup for Alarm Response Procedure
- Formal Joint-operations Agreement w/ ACUPD
- Close relationship/Info Sharing with all local, State, and federal agencies

MSRR Design Features: Fuel

- Special Nuclear Material (SNM)
 - Anticipated SNM license inventory:
 - 500 kg U
 - HALUE (enrichment less than 20%)
 - Cat II
 - Unirradiated SNM inventory after initial startup:
 - <5kg SNM, Cat III
 - Physical Form of SNM
 - Self-protection of SNM



MSRR Design Features: Facility



- Facility security
 - Barriers to access:
 - Access control
 - Intrusion detectors
 - Alarmed response
 - Containment of SNM/fission products:
 - Multiple barriers
 - Reactor vessel
 - Containment vessel
 - Massive shielding
 - Off Gas System
- Physical protection of shipments of SNM
- Information Technology Security
 (Cybersecurity)