



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

February 14, 2022

Dr. Rusty Towell, Director
NEXT Lab
Abilene Christian University
ACU Box 27963
Abilene, TX 79699

**SUBJECT: ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY – APPROVAL OF QUALITY ASSURANCE
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION TOPICAL REPORT (EPID NO. L-2021-NFO-0006)**

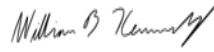
Dear Dr. Towell:

By letter dated March 18, 2021 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML21099A109), Abilene Christian University (ACU) submitted for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff review its “Abilene Christian University Nuclear Energy eXperimental Testing Laboratory (NEXT Lab) Quality Assurance Program Description (QAPD) for Design, Licensing and Construction of the Abilene Christian University Molten Salt Research Reactor (MSRR),” Revision A, topical report (TR). This TR addresses quality assurance requirements to support license applications for ACU’s MSRR. As part of its review, the NRC staff sent a request for additional information (RAI) to ACU by letter dated July 13, 2021 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21190A224). By letter dated July 27, 2021 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21230A307), ACU provided Revision B of its QAPD TR, which contained changes as a result of the NRC staff’s RAI. In response to a request by the NRC staff during a teleconference held with ACU on December 9, 2021, ACU provided clarification related to a typographical error in the QAPD, Revision B, as detailed in letter dated December 9, 2021 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21362A408).

The NRC staff’s final safety evaluation (SE) for the QAPD, Revision B, TR is enclosed. The NRC staff requests that ACU publish an accepted version of this TR within 3 months of receipt of this letter. The accepted version shall incorporate this letter and the enclosed SE after the title page. The accepted version shall include a “-A” (designating accepted) following ACU’s TR identification symbol (e.g., QAPD-001-B for ACU’s QAPD, Revision B, TR).

If you have any questions, please contact Richard Rivera at (301) 415-7190, or by email at Richard.Rivera@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Signed by Kennedy, William
on 02/14/22

William Kennedy, Acting Chief
Advanced Reactor Licensing Branch
Division of Advanced Reactors and Non-Power
Production and Utilization Facilities
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 99902088

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: Phil Schubert, Ed.D., President
Abilene Christian University
Office of the President
206 Hardin Administration Building
ACU Box 29100
Abilene, TX 79699-9100

Test, Research and Training Reactor Newsletter
Attention: Ms. Amber Johnson
Department of Materials Science and Engineering
University of Maryland
4418 Stadium Drive
College Park, MD 20742-2115

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