

March 9, 2001

Mr. G. A. Kuehn, Jr.
Vice President, SNEC and
Program Director SNEC Facility
GPU Nuclear, Inc.
Route 441 South
P.O. Box 480
Middletown, PA 17057-0480

SUBJECT: SAXTON NUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL CORPORATION FACILITY -
AMENDMENT RE: CORPORATE NAME CHANGE (TAC NO. MB0692)

Dear Mr. Kuehn:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Commission) has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 17 to Amended Facility License No. DPR-4 for the GPU Nuclear, Inc. and Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation Facility. The amendment consists of changes to the Amended Facility License in response to your application of November 30, 2000, as supplemented on January 18, 2001.

The amendment changes the name GPU Nuclear Corporation to GPU Nuclear, Inc. wherever the name appears in the license.

A copy of the safety evaluation supporting Amendment No. 17 is also enclosed. The Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly *Federal Register* notice.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Alexander Adams, Jr., Senior Project Manager
Events Assessment, Generic Communications and
Non-Power Reactors Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-146

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 17
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:

Please see next page

Saxton Nuclear
Experimental Corporation

Docket No. 50-146

cc:

Mr. Sandy Levin
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Saxton, PA 16678

Mr. James H. Elder, Chairman
Concerned Citizens for SNEC Safety
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Saxton, PA 16678

Mr. Ernest Fuller
1427 Kearney Hill Road
Six Mile Run, PA 16679

Saxton Borough Council
ATTN: Peggy Whited, Secretary
9th and Spring Streets
Saxton, PA 16678

Mr. David J. Thompson, Chair
Bedford County Commissioners
County Court House
203 South Juliana Street
Bedford, PA 15522

Mr. Larry Sather, Chairman
Huntingdon County Commissioners
County Court House
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Saxton Community Library
Front Street
Saxton, PA 16678

Carbon Township Supervisors
ATTN: Penny Brode, Secretary
R. D. #1, Box 222-C
Saxton, PA 16678

Hopewell Township Supervisors
ATTN: Sally Giornesto, Secretary
RR 1 Box 95
James Creek, PA 16657-9512

Mr. D. Bud McIntyre, Chairman
Broad Top Township Supervisors
Broad Top Municipal Building
Defiance, PA 16633

Mr. Don Weaver, Chairman
Liberty Township Supervisors
R. D. #1
Saxton, PA 16678

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District
ATTN: S. Snarski/P. Juhle
P.O. Box 1715
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The Honorable Robert C. Jubelirer
President Pro-Temp Senate of
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Harrisburg, PA 17120

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Mr. Edwin Fuhrer
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Middletown, PA 17057
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Mr. Charles Barker
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Vice President, SNEC and
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GPU Nuclear, Inc.
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P.O. Box 480
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Sincerely,

/RA/

Alexander Adams, Jr., Senior Project Manager
Events Assessment, Generic Communications and
Non-Power Reactors Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-146

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Please see next page

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SAXTON NUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL CORPORATION

GPU NUCLEAR CORPORATION

DOCKET NO. 50-146

AMENDMENT TO AMENDED FACILITY LICENSE

Amendment No. 17
License No. DPR-4

1. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that
 - A. The application for an amendment to Amended Facility License No. DPR-4 filed by GPU Nuclear, Inc. and the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation (the licensees) on November 30, 2000, as supplemented on January 18, 2001, conforms to the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the regulations of the Commission as stated in Chapter I of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR);
 - B. The facility will be possessed in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance that (i) the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public and (ii) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the regulations of the Commission;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. This amendment is issued in accordance with the regulations of the Commission as stated in 10 CFR Part 51, and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to Amended Facility License No. DPR-4 which is hereby amended as follows:

- a. The title on page 1 of the license shall read:

GPU NUCLEAR, INC.

SAXTON NUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL CORPORATION

DOCKET NO. 50-146

AMENDED FACILITY LICENSE

- b. Paragraph 1. C. of the license shall read:

GPU Nuclear, Inc. is technically qualified, and Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation is financially qualified, to engage in the activities authorized by the amended license in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Commission;

- c. Paragraph 2. B. of the license shall read:

Subject to the conditions and requirements incorporated herein, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission hereby licenses GPU Nuclear, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as GPU Nuclear) and SNEC as follows:

- (1) GPU Nuclear, pursuant to Section 104b of the Act and 10 CFR Part 50, "Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities," is licensed to possess, manage, use, and maintain, but not to operate, the Saxton facility at the designated location in Liberty Township, Bedford County, Pennsylvania, in accordance with the procedures and limitations set forth in the facility license;
- (2) SNEC, pursuant to the Act and 10 CFR Part 50, is licensed to possess, but not to manage, use, maintain, or operate, the Saxton facility at the designated location in Liberty Township, Bedford County, Pennsylvania, in accordance with the procedures and limitations set forth in the facility license; and
- (3) GPU Nuclear, pursuant to the Act and 10 CFR Part 30, "Rules of General Applicability to Domestic Licensing of Byproduct Material," is licensed to possess, but not to separate, such byproduct material as may have been produced by operation of the Saxton facility.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Alexander Adams, Jr., Senior Project Manager
Events Assessment, Generic Communications and
Non-Power Reactors Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Date of Issuance: March 8, 2001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 17 TO

AMENDED FACILITY LICENSE NO. DPR-4

GPU NUCLEAR CORPORATION

SAXTON NUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL CORPORATION

DOCKET NO. 50-146

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated November 30, 2000, as supplemented by letter dated January 18, 2001, GPU Nuclear, Inc. and the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation (the licensees) submitted a request to amend Amended Facility License No. DPR-4 for the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation (SNEC) Facility (SNEF). The amendment would change the name of GPU Nuclear Corporation to "GPU Nuclear, Inc." wherever it appears in the Amended Facility License to reflect a change in the name of the corporation.

2.0 EVALUATION

The licensees have proposed to change the name of GPU Nuclear Corporation to GPU Nuclear, Inc. wherever the name appears in Amended Facility License No. DPR-4. The change in name is made to reflect a change in the legal name of the corporation. An identical change was previously approved by the NRC for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station (Amendment No. 194, issued on January 14, 1998) and the Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 1 (Amendment No. 207, issued on April 24, 1998).

Because this is a change in legal name only, it will have no impact on the continued safe possession, maintenance, and decommissioning of the SNEF. The change will not alter the corporate existence of the company, or its obligations, responsibilities or liabilities as a licensee for the SNEF. All legal characteristics of the company, other than its legal name will remain the same.

The staff has determined that this is an administrative change, and therefore acceptable.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the regulations of the Commission, the Pennsylvania State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comment.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The Commission has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA), which was published in the *Federal Register* on March 8, 2001 (66 FR 13981). On the basis of the EA, the Commission has determined that no Environmental Impact Statement is required and that issuance of this amendment will have no significant adverse effect on the quality of the human environment.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has reviewed the proposed change in name of GPU Nuclear Corporation to GPU Nuclear, Inc. and concluded that the name change is administrative and therefore acceptable.

The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on the finding, which was published in the *Federal Register* on January 10, 2001 (66 FR 2010).

The staff has concluded, on the basis of the considerations discussed above, that (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by site activities conducted in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the regulations of the Commission, and (3) 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: A. Adams, Jr.

Date: March 8, 2001