[7590-01-P]

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 030-34438

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR LICENSE AMENDMENT TO BYPRODUCT MATERIALS LICENSE NO. 29-30390-01, FOR UNRESTRICTED RELEASE OF THE SFBC TAYLOR TECHNOLOGY, INCORPORATED FACILITY LOCATED AT 107 COLLEGE ROAD EAST IN PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Issuance of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for License Amendment.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering the issuance of a license amendment to Byproduct Materials License No. 29-30390-01. This license is held by SFBC Taylor Technology, Inc. (the Licensee), for its locations of use located at 107 and 301D College Road East in Princeton, New Jersey. Issuance of the amendment would authorize release of the location of use at 107 College Road East in Princeton, New Jersey (the Facility) for

unrestricted use while retaining authorization to conduct licensed activities at the 301D College Road East location of use. The Licensee requested this action in a letter dated May 1, 2006. The NRC has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) in support of this proposed action in accordance with the requirements of Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 51 (10 CFR Part 51). Based on the EA, the NRC has concluded that a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is appropriate with respect to the proposed action. The NRC plans to take this proposed action following the publication of this FONSI and EA in the Federal Register.

II. Environmental Assessment

Identification of Proposed Action

The proposed action would approve the Licensee's May 1, 2006, license amendment request, resulting in release of the Facility for unrestricted use. License No. 29-30390-01 was issued on June 5, 1997, pursuant to 10 CFR Part 30, and has been amended periodically since that time. This license authorized the Licensee to use unsealed byproduct material for purposes of conducting research and development activities on laboratory bench tops and in hoods.

The Facility consists of 10,000 square feet of office space and laboratories and is located in a commercial area. Within the Facility, use of licensed materials was confined to the Mass Spectroscopy Laboratory (1,000 square feet), the Wet Laboratory (1,000 square feet), the Sample Log-In Area (350 square feet), and the Waste Storage Area (150 square feet).

On June 6, 2005, the Licensee ceased licensed activities in these areas and initiated a survey and decontamination of the Facility. Based on the Licensee's historical knowledge of the site and the conditions of the Facility, the Licensee determined that only routine decontamination activities, in accordance with their NRC-approved, operating radiation safety procedures, were required. The Licensee was not required to submit a decommissioning plan to the NRC

because worker cleanup activities and procedures are consistent with those approved for routine operations. The Licensee conducted surveys of the Facility and provided information to the NRC to demonstrate that it meets the criteria in Subpart E of 10 CFR Part 20 for unrestricted release.

Need for the Proposed Action

The Licensee has ceased conducting licensed activities at the Facility and seeks the unrestricted use of its Facility.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The historical review of licensed activities conducted at the Facility shows that such activities involved use of the following radionuclides with half-lives greater than 120 days: hydrogen-3 and carbon-14. Prior to performing the final status survey, the Licensee conducted decontamination activities, as necessary, in the areas of the Facility affected by these radionuclides.

The Licensee conducted a final status survey on April 11, 2006. This survey covered the Waste Storage Area, the Sample Log-in Area, the Wet Laboratory, and the Mass Spectroscopy Laboratory. The final status survey report was attached to the Licensee's amendment request dated May 1, 2006. The Licensee elected to demonstrate compliance with the radiological criteria for unrestricted release as specified in 10 CFR 20.1402 by performing radiological surveys and determining that the contamination in the Facility areas where licensed material was used would not expose an individual to 25 millirem per year of radiation by inhalation or ingestion. The Licensee thus determined the maximum amount of residual radioactivity on building surfaces, equipment, and materials that will satisfy the NRC requirements in Subpart E of 10 CFR Part 20 for unrestricted release. The Licensee's final status survey results were

below 200 disintegrations per minute for a wipe of 100 square centimeters for the isotopes of Carbon-14 and tritium (Hydrogen-3), and are thus acceptable.

Based on its review, the staff has determined that the affected environment and any environmental impacts associated with the proposed action are bounded by the impacts evaluated by the "Generic Environmental Impact Statement in Support of Rulemaking on Radiological Criteria for License Termination of NRC-Licensed Nuclear Facilities" (NUREG-1496) Volumes 1-3 (ML042310492, ML042320379, and ML042330385). Accordingly, there were no significant environmental impacts from the use of radioactive material at the Facility. The NRC staff reviewed the docket file records and the final status survey report to identify any non-radiological hazards that may have impacted the environment surrounding the Facility. No such hazards or impacts to the environment were identified. The NRC has found no other radiological or non-radiological activities in the area that could result in cumulative environmental impacts.

The NRC staff finds that the proposed release of the Facility for unrestricted use is in compliance with 10 CFR 20.1402. Based on its review, the staff considered the impact of the residual radioactivity at the Facility and concluded that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

Environmental Impacts of the Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Due to the largely administrative nature of the proposed action, its environmental impacts are small. Therefore, the only alternative the staff considered is the no-action alternative, under which the staff would leave things as they are by simply denying the amendment request. This no-action alternative is not feasible because it conflicts with 10 CFR 30.36(d), requiring that decommissioning of byproduct material facilities be completed and approved by the NRC after

licensed activities cease. The NRC's analysis of the Licensee's final status survey data confirmed that the Facility meets the requirements of 10 CFR 20.1402 for unrestricted release. Additionally, this denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the no-action alternative are therefore similar, and the no-action alternative is accordingly not further considered.

Conclusion

The NRC staff has concluded that the proposed action is consistent with the NRC's unrestricted release criteria specified in 10 CFR 20.1402. Because the proposed action will not significantly impact the quality of the human environment, the NRC staff concludes that the proposed action is the preferred alternative.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

NRC provided a draft of this Environmental Assessment to the State of New Jersey's Department of Environmental Protection for review on June 13, 2006. On June 29, 2006, the State of New Jersey's Department of Environmental Protection responded by letter. The State agreed with the conclusions of the EA, and otherwise had no comments.

The NRC staff has determined that the proposed action is of a procedural nature, and will not affect listed species or critical habitat. Therefore, no further consultation is required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. The NRC staff has also determined that the proposed action is not the type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties. Therefore, no further consultation is required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

III. Finding of No Significant Impact

The NRC staff has prepared this EA in support of the proposed action. On the basis of this EA, the NRC finds that there are no significant environmental impacts from the proposed action, and that preparation of an environmental impact statement is not warranted. Accordingly, the NRC has determined that a Finding of No Significant Impact is appropriate.

IV. Further Information

Documents related to this action, including the application for license amendment and supporting documentation, are available electronically at the NRC's Electronic Reading Room at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html. From this site, you can access the NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS), which provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. The documents related to this action are listed below, along with their ADAMS accession numbers.

1. NRC License No. 29-30390-01 inspection and licensing records [ADAMS Accession Nos. ML031130227, ML031250277, ML042980018, ML060890371, ML060960381, ML060960391, and ML060960509];
2. Request for unrestricted release of the facility at 107 College Road East, Princeton, New Jersey with survey results for SFBC Taylor Technologies, Inc., dated May 1, 2006 [ADAMS Accession No. ML061280123];
3. Request for Additional Information (RAI) issued May 18, 2006, by the U.S. NRC [ADAMS Accession No. ML061390010];
4. SFBC Taylor Technology, Inc.'s response dated May 26, 2006, to U.S. NRC's RAI [ML061510154]
5. NUREG-1757, "Consolidated NMSS Decommissioning Guidance";

6. Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20, Subpart E, "Radiological Criteria for License Termination";

7. Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 51, "Environmental Protection Regulations for Domestic Licensing and Related Regulatory Functions";

[8]. NUREG-1496, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement in Support of Rulemaking on Radiological Criteria for License Termination of NRC-Licensed Nuclear Facilities"

If you do not have access to ADAMS, or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by email to pdr@nrc.gov. These documents may also be viewed electronically on the public computers located at the NRC's PDR, O 1 F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. The PDR reproduction contractor will copy documents for a fee.

Dated at Region I, 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia this 23rd day of August 2006.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

James P. Dwyer, Chief
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