

## **SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT**

**Docket No. 72-1**  
**GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas, LLC**  
**GE Morris Operation Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation**  
**Renewed Materials License No. SNM-2500**  
**Amendment No. 14**

### **Summary**

This safety evaluation report (SER) documents the review and evaluation of an amendment request for Special Nuclear Materials License No. 2500 (SNM-2500) for the GE-Hitachi Morris Operation (GEMO) Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI). By application dated June 25, 2013, GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas, LLC (the licensee) submitted a request for a license amendment to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 72.56, "Application for amendment of license." The requested amendment would change section 8.2.1 of GEMO's Technical Specification to ensure that annual environmental reports are submitted in accordance with regulatory requirements. The application included adequate justification for the proposed changes.

The staff has reviewed the application, including the justifications for the proposed changes. As discussed below, based on the statements and representations in the application, the staff agrees that the proposed changes will not have an adverse effect on public health and safety, or the environment, and finds that the proposed changes are acceptable.

### **Discussion**

On December 21, 2004, the NRC renewed the specific license for the GEMO ISFSI to GE-Hitachi Americas, LLC, in accordance with 10 CFR Part 72. The ISFSI Technical Specifications were included as an appendix to the license. The requested amendment would change GEMO's Technical Specification for Safety, Section 8.2.1 which currently states that an annual environmental report will be submitted to the NRC Region III office with a copy to Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards. According to 10 CFR 72.4 Communications, this report should be submitted to the Director, Division of Spent Fuel Management. The proposed Amendment aligns the Technical Specification with the regulatory requirement. In addition to the change to the Technical Specifications, the staff made editorial changes to the text throughout the Technical Specifications and license to correct grammatical errors.

GEMO Technical Justification: There is no change in the function of the licensee or the way in which it does business. The licensee's financial responsibility for its independent spent fuel storage installation and its sources of funds to support the installation will remain the same. The administrative change to GEMO's Technical Specifications will have no impact on the design, function, or operation of any structures, systems, or components. Therefore, this change does not reduce the level of safety imposed by the current license. GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy

Americas, LLC continues to be responsible for the safe operation of the GEMO Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation.

**GEMO Safety Assessment and No Genuine Issue Determination:** The proposed changes are administrative. There will be no physical changes to the GEMO Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation as a result of the proposed changes. There will be no procedure revisions that affect operation, maintenance, or performance of surveillance on the facility as a result of the proposed changes. The proposed changes have no impact on the safety of the facility. Therefore, the proposed changes do not present a genuine issue as to whether public health and safety will be significantly affected.

**GEMO Environmental Impact Consideration:** Staff has reviewed the proposed amendment and has concluded that the request is eligible for a categorical exclusion from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement in accordance with 10 CFR 51.22(c)(10). The basis for this conclusion is that the request will involve issuance of an amendment to an ISFSI license pursuant to Part 72 that only changes recordkeeping, reporting, or administrative procedures or requirements and does not involve a change in the design or operation of the facility.

With the submittal of this license amendment, the licensee requested NRC to replace references to the addressee for the environmental report in the Technical Specifications of License No. SNM-2500 to comply with the regulatory requirement. This request applies to Section 8.2.1 of the Technical Specification for the renewed license, License No. SNM-2500.

The staff has reviewed the changes proposed by this amendment request, the justification provided by the licensee, and the referenced documents and determined that the proposed changes will not affect the design, operation, maintenance, or surveillance of the ISFSI. The staff agrees with the applicant's assessment that the proposed changes are administrative in nature and will not impact the safety of the ISFSI.

### **Requirements for Noticing Proposed Action**

The staff considered the amendment's potential impact on the health and safety of the public. The staff finds that this license amendment does not involve any changes in the scope or type of operations presently authorized by the license. The staff has determined that the amendment does not present a genuine issue as to whether public health and safety will be significantly affected.

Accordingly, pursuant to 10 CFR 72.46(b)(2), immediate action on this amendment may be taken, and a notice of the proposed action or a notice of opportunity for hearing is not warranted.

### **Conclusion**

The staff concludes that the proposed change to the GEMO ISFSI License Technical Specifications does not alter the prior staff conclusions and findings made in support of the granting of the license, and will not impact the public health and safety. Based on the information provided in the application, the staff concludes that SNM-2500, as amended, meets the requirements of 10 CFR Part 72.

Issued with Renewed Materials License No. SNM-2500, Amendment No. 14, on: April 16, 2015.