



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

January 13, 2020

Dr. Alan Cebula  
Nuclear Reactor Facility Manager  
Kansas State University  
112 Ward Hall  
Manhattan, KS 66506-5204

**SUBJECT: KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY – RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR EXTENSION  
OF TIME TO RESPOND TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
REGARDING LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR THE USE OF 12 WEIGHT  
PERCENT URANIUM FUEL ELEMENTS (EPID NO. L-2019-LLA-0092)**

Dear Dr. Cebula:

By letter dated April 9, 2012 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML12109A063), as supplemented by letter(s) dated April 28, 2014; October 5, 2016; May 2, 2017; September 23, 2017; and November 30, 2018 (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML16200A317, ML16291A498, ML17139C979, ML17319A305, and ML18347A209, respectively), Kansas State University (KSU) applied for an amendment to Facility Operating License No. R-88 for the KSU Training, Research, Isotopes, General Atomics (TRIGA) Mark-II Nuclear Reactor Facility. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) approval of the license amendment request (LAR) would allow KSU to add up to four fuel elements that are 12 percent by weight uranium to its reactor core.

On June 5, 2019 (ADAMS Accession No. ML19128A342), the NRC staff sent KSU a letter enclosing a request for additional information (RAI) identifying additional information needed for the NRC staff to continue its review of KSU's LAR. The NRC staff's June 5, 2019, letter requested that KSU provide responses to the RAIs by October 7, 2019. Additionally, based on this RAI response date, the NRC staff provided KSU with an estimated LAR review completion date of December 31, 2020.

By letter dated October 7, 2019 (ADAMS Accession No. ML19295D727), KSU requested an extension until January 7, 2020, to respond to the NRC staff's June 5, 2019, RAI. The NRC staff granted KSU's October 7, 2019, extension request by letter dated October 24, 2019 (ADAMS Accession No. ML19290H593).

By letter dated January 7, 2020 (ADAMS Accession No. ML20013F680), KSU requested an additional extension until March 7, 2020, to respond to the June 5, 2019, RAI. KSU stated that its request is based on progress made to date in responding to the RAI, availability of personnel, and additional time needed for updating and benchmarking simulation models.

Additionally, in its letter dated January 7, 2020, KSU confirmed that the administrative operating restrictions discussed in its letter dated October 7, 2019, and acknowledged in the NRC staff's October 24, 2019, letter, will continue to remain in place, and KSU will provide advance

notification to the NRC if KSU plans to change the restrictions prior to completion of the LAR review.

The NRC staff accepts KSU's extension request dated January 7, 2020.

Based on the new RAI response date of March 7, 2020, the NRC staff is providing a revised date of May 31, 2021, by which it expects to complete its review and make a final determination on the LAR. This date could change due to several factors including a need for further RAIs, unanticipated changes to the scope of the review, unsolicited supplements to the application for amendment, and others. If the forecasted date changes, the NRC staff will notify you in writing of the new date and an explanation of the reason for the change.

If you have any questions or need additional time to respond to the NRC staff's original June 5, 2019, request, please contact me at 301-415-4067 or by electronic mail at [Edward.Helvenston@nrc.gov](mailto:Edward.Helvenston@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Edward Helvenston, Project Manager  
Non-Power Production and Utilization Facility  
Licensing Branch  
Division of Advanced Reactors and Non-Power  
Production and Utilization Facilities  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-188  
License No. R-88

cc: See next page

Kansas State University

Docket No. 50-188

cc:

Office of the Governor  
State of Kansas  
300 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 212 S  
Topeka, KS 66612-1590

Kim Steves  
Radiation Control Section  
Kansas Department of Health and Environment  
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 330  
Topeka, KS 66612-1365

Mayor of Manhattan  
City Hall  
1101 Poyntz Avenue  
Manhattan, KS 66502

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

Robert Seymour, Reactor Supervisor  
Kansas State University  
117 Ward Hall  
Manhattan, KS 66506

SUBJECT: KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY – RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR EXTENSION  
OF TIME TO RESPOND TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
REGARDING LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR THE USE OF 12 WEIGHT  
PERCENT URANIUM FUEL ELEMENTS DATE: JANUARY 13, 2020

**DISTRIBUTION:**

PUBLIC

RidsNrrDanu

CBassett, NRR

NParker, NRR

TTate, NRR

LTran, NRR

EHelvenston, NRR

MKGavello, NRR

PRLB R/F

PBoyle, NRR

JStaudenmeier, RES

GCasto, NRR

RidsNrrDanuUnpTeamResource

**ADAMS Accession No. ML20008D352 \*concurrence via e-mail****NRR-106**

OFFICE	NRR/DANU/UNPL/PM*	NRR/DANU/UNPL/LA*	NRR/DANU/UNPL/BC	NRR/DANU/UNPL/PM
NAME	EHelvenston	NParker	GCasto	EHelvenston
DATE	1/13/20	1/10/20	1/13/20	1/13/20

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**