



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

January 24, 2020

Mr. Corey Hines, Director  
Washington State University  
Nuclear Radiation Center  
50 Roundtop Drive  
Pullman, WA 99164 1300

**SUBJECT: WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY – ACCEPTANCE OF THE APPLICATION  
FOR A LICENSE AMENDMENT RE: CENTER NAME CHANGE, UPDATE THE  
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART, AND REMOVAL OF THE PRIMARY COOLANT  
POTENTIAL HYDROGEN TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION  
(EPID L-2019-LLA-0253)**

Dear Mr. Hines:

By letter dated September 30, 2019 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML19273A941), Washington State University (WSU) applied for an amendment to Facility Operating License No. R-76 for the WSU Modified TRIGA (Training, Research, Isotopes, General Atomics) Nuclear Reactor. The license amendment request (LAR) proposes to change the name of the center that contains the Washington State University Modified TRIGA Reactor from Nuclear Radiation Center to Nuclear Science Center, updating the WSU organizational chart, and a request to remove the technical specification (TS) requiring a pH [potential hydrogen] measurement of the primary coolant.

Consistent with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.90, "Application for amendment of license, construction permit, or early site permit," an application to amend the license (including the TSs) must fully describe the changes desired and follow, as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. The requirements in 10 CFR 50.34, "Contents of applications; technical information," cover the technical information to be included in the application and stipulate that it address design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff performed an acceptance review of the LAR and concluded that it includes sufficient information for the NRC staff to begin its detailed technical review. Notwithstanding the acceptance review, the NRC staff may require additional information to complete the detailed technical review. If needed, the NRC staff will request this information by separate correspondence within approximately 45 days of the date of this letter.

Based on the acceptance review, the NRC staff expects to complete its review and make a final determination on the LAR by July 31, 2020. This date could change due to several factors, including requests for additional information, unanticipated changes to the scope of the review, unsolicited supplements to the LAR, 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, please contact me at (301) 415-2856 or by electronic mail at [Michael.Balazik@nrc.gov](mailto:Michael.Balazik@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

***/RA by Greg A. Casto for/***

Michael F. Balazik, Project Manager/Inspector  
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. 50-027  
License No. R-76

cc: See next page

Washington State University

Docket No. 50-027

cc:

Director  
Division of Radiation Protection  
Department of Health  
7171 Cleanwater Lane, Bldg #5  
P.O. Box 47827  
Olympia, WA 98504-7827

Mr. Rey McGehee  
Radiation Safety Officer  
Washington State University  
P.O. Box 641302  
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Mike Kluzik, Chair  
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Ms. Hillary Bennett, Reactor Supervisor  
Washington State University  
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Pullman, WA 99164 1300

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

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DATED: JANUARY 24, 2020

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**ADAMS Accession No.: ML20017A073****\*concurred via e-mail****NRR-004**

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