

AUG 20 1985

DOCKET NO: 70-1007

LICENSEE: General Electric Company (GE)
San Jose, California

SUBJECT: TERMINATION OF SNM-54

Background

On April 14, 1982, GE requested termination of Materials License No. SNM-54. Remaining activities would be transferred to California License No. 0418-59.

Discussions with officials of the State of California, Department of Health Services, led to the agreement that California would accept regulatory responsibility for the site if Buildings H and J were decontaminated. Buildings H and J had been used in conversion of enriched uranium hexafluoride to uranium oxide pellets for encapsulation in fuel rods.

Discussion

In 1967, GE was authorized by the AEC to possess enriched uranium for the production and developmental fabrication of fuel assemblies. The license also authorized 10 grams of U-233 and 641 grams of Pu, mainly as sealed sources. The license was renewed in 1977 by the NRC with possession of lesser quantities of enriched uranium in any form and plutonium as sealed sources. The license has been in a timely renewal status since 1982, pending license termination.

Buildings H and J were used for uranium conversion and fuel fabrication activities. Other buildings onsite were used for laboratories or for instrument fabrication. Consequently, most of the enriched uranium contamination should have been in Buildings H and J.

GE also possesses a State of California license which authorizes use of source and byproduct material at the San Jose site. GE has requested authorization from the State to possess and use enriched uranium and plutonium at the site. Concurrent with this State action, the NRC will terminate SNM-54.

The NRC Region V staff has surveyed Buildings H and J and determined that residual contamination in both buildings is below NRC guidelines for release of facilities to unrestricted use. The State will assume regulatory authority over residual SNM contamination, if any, in other buildings.

Copies of the Region V inspection reports and the NRC guidelines are attached.

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Conclusion/Recommendation

The staff finds that Buildings H and J have been decontaminated so as to allow unrestricted use. Residual contamination in other facilities will be subject to regulation by the State of California. Termination of SNM-54 with the concurrent issuance of a State of California license will have no adverse effect on the public health and safety or on the environment.

The staff recommends termination of Materials License No. SNM-54 with the concurrent issuance of an SNM license amendment by the State of California.

Mr. R. Thomas, Section Chief, Region V, indicated by phone that Region V had no objection to this action. Mr. Don Honey, State of California, agreed by phone to the license termination.

Original signed by
George H. Bidinger

G. H. Bidinger
Uranium Process Licensing Section
Uranium Fuel Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle and
Material Safety, NMSS

Original Signed By:
W. T. Crow

Approved by:

W. T. Crow, Section Leader

Attachments:

1. Inspection Report 07001007/83-1
2. Inspection Report 07001007/84-1
3. "Guidelines for ... Termination of License for Byproduct, Source, or Special Nuclear Material," July 1982

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