



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

September 9, 1985

Docket No.: 50-297

Dr. Bruce R. Poulton, Chancellor  
Room A, Holladay Hall  
North Carolina State University  
P. O. Box 7001  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27695-7001

Dear Dr. Poulton:

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT NO. 9 TO OPERATING LICENSE No. R-120, NORTH CAROLINA  
STATE UNIVERSITY

The Commission has issued Amendment No. 9 to Facility Operating License No. R-120 for the North Carolina State University PULSTAR research reactor. The amendment, in response to your submittal dated July 19, 1985, deletes from your license the authorization to possess high enriched uranium fuel in connection with operation of your reactor.

According to your letter, you have shipped all high enriched uranium (HEU) fuel from your reactor site to Department of Energy facilities at Savannah River, in Aiken, South Carolina. This shipment was accomplished in accordance with applicable transportation and radiation control regulations, and in accordance with Operating License No. R-120. Receipt at the Savannah River Plant was acknowledged in writing, a copy of which was enclosed with your July 19, 1985 letter.

The shipped fuel was not used in a reactor at any time, so it was unirradiated. Furthermore, the fuel had been retained at your site in acceptable storage facilities.

This license amendment does not: (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. Therefore, this amendment does not involve any significant hazards considerations.

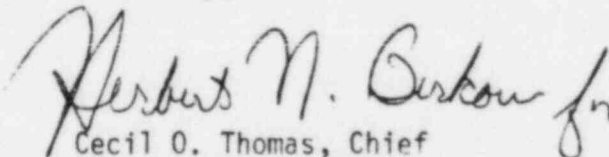
Because of the above considerations, the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has concluded that the removal of the HEU fuel from your facility has been accomplished with no significant impact on the environment or the health and safety of the public, and is consistent with current NRC practice to encourage non-power reactor licensees to decrease, to the maximum extent practicable, their inventory of unirradiated HEU fuel.

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This amendment involves changes in the installation or use of facility components located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration (as discussed above), there is no significant change in the types or significant increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, this amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

The license is amended in paragraph 2.B(2) to reflect the removal of the HEU fuel from your reactor site, and to delete the authorization to possess such fuel. For purposes of clarification we have added the statement about the enrichment of your authorized fuel. This change has been discussed with and concurred in by your staff. A copy of the amendment is enclosed. If you have questions or comments, please contact R. E. Carter, our Project Manager for your facility, at (301)492-9795.

Sincerely,



Cecil O. Thomas, Chief  
Standardization & Special  
Projects Branch  
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:

1. Amendment No. 9

cc w/enclosures:

See next page

North Carolina State University

Docket No. 50-297

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