



PennState
College of Engineering

**RADIATION SCIENCE &
ENGINEERING CENTER**

The Pennsylvania State University
College of Engineering
Radiation Science and Engineering Center
Breazeale Nuclear Reactor
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US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

50-005

27 April 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

Due to the nationwide shutdown associated with the COVID-19 public health emergency, non-essential travel has been severely restricted. These restrictions have the potential to impede or prevent the completion of certain regulatory requirements. Specifically, the Breazeale Reactor at Pennsylvania State University is subject to the regulations of 10CFR37.27, which requires re-investigation of personnel with access to Category 1 and Category 2 quantities of radioactive material. This re-investigation, which must be performed every 10 years, is not feasible to perform safely during the ongoing public health emergency.

Due to these unusual circumstances, the PSU Breazeale Reactor requests a temporary exemption from the 10CFR37.27 reinvestigation requirements. This exemption is requested starting immediately and ending 12/31/2020. The delayed reinvestigation process will be completed as soon as practicable after the end of travel restrictions imposed by the public health emergency, while allowing some time for the process to be completed following fingerprinting. This temporary exemption is a short time span compared to the 10-year interval between required reinvestigations. Due to the short duration of the exemption, the temporary exemption from the Part 37 reinvestigation requirement will have a negligible impact on the safety and security of the facility.

Individuals who cannot meet the Part 37 requirements prior to the approval of this exemption will have their access to certain areas of the building temporarily restricted to maintain regulatory compliance. Please contact me with any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey A. Geuther

Associate Director for Operations
Radiation Science and Engineering Center
Pennsylvania State University

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