

SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT

DOCKET NO.: 70-1374

LICENSE NO.: SNM-1373

LICENSEE: Idaho State University

SUBJECT: IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY, AMENDMENT 8: APPROVAL OF UPDATED
ROSTER OF UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS – ENTERPRISE PROJECT
IDENTIFICATION NUMBER L-2022-NFA-0002

I. INTRODUCTION

By letter dated December 20, 2021 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] Accession No. ML22025A203), Idaho State University (ISU) requested the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to amend Special Nuclear Materials License Number 1373 (SNM-1373) to update their university officials' roster. The specific changes to the roster are as follows:

- elimination of an Assistant Reactor Administrator,
- replacing Mr. John Longley as Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) with Mr. Mason Jaussi.

In its letter, ISU stated that the elimination of the Assistant Reactor Administrator position is due to the retirement of Dr. George Imel, who held this title, and to the expanded experience of the current Reactor Administrator, Dr. Mary Lou Dunzik-Gougar, and that the replacement of the RSO is due to the retirement of the current RSO, Mr. John Longley.

II. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

The regulations in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Paragraph 70.23(a) state that an application for a license will be approved if the Commission determines, in part, that the applicant is qualified by reason of training and experience to use licensed material for the purpose requested.

III. DISCUSSION

The NRC staff reviewed the training and experience of both Dr. Dunzik-Gougar and Mr. Jaussi against the minimum qualification requirements listed in the November 13, 2020, update of Attachment IV of ISU's license application, and found them acceptable. Specifically, the NRC staff makes the following findings:

- A. Attachment IV of ISU's license application, as updated by letter dated November 13, 2020 (ADAMS Accession No. ML20332A026), states that the minimum qualifications for the Reactor Supervisor are: (1) Master's Degree (M.S.) or Doctor of Philosophy Degree (PhD) in an engineering or physical science field, and (2) at least 2 years of experience related to nuclear reactor operations (need not have power reactor experience). The NRC staff noted that Dr. Mary Lou Dunzik-Gougar's education and experience were submitted previously in 2015 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15082A022). Dr. Dunzik-

Enclosure 1

Gougar received a PhD in Nuclear Engineering in 2003. She has over 2 years of experience as the Acting Chair of the Nuclear Engineering and Health Physics Program, Associate Professor of Nuclear Engineering, Associate Dean of the College of Science and Engineering, and, currently, Reactor Administrator at ISU. This is in addition to many years of experience with Idaho National Laboratory, Argonne National Laboratory, and Pennsylvania State University. Therefore, the staff finds that Dr. Dunzik-Gougar meets the qualifications for the Reactor Administrator and that her appointment to this position is acceptable.

- B. The November 13, 2020, updates of Attachment IV of ISU's application state that the qualifications for the RSO are: (1) Bachelor of Science (BS) degree, or higher, in health physics, nuclear engineering, or a closely related field, and 5 years of experience related to health physics/radiation protection. In addition, the RSO must be certified by the American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP), or nominal equivalent certification. Mr. Mason Jaussi holds a BS Degree in Physics (May 2015) and an M.S. Degree in health physics (May 2018, ISU), both from ISU. He also has more than 6 years of professional experience in health physics and radiation protection, one of these as a Nuclear Safety Analysis Engineer at the Battelle Energy Alliance, Idaho National Laboratory, and more than 5 years with Idaho State University as a Health Physicist and assistant RSO for all of ISU's, NRC-issued licenses. Mr. Jaussi is also an Associate Member of the AAHP (offered by the AAHP to individuals who sit for and successfully pass one of the two parts of the certification examination), a member of the National Health Physics Society and of the Health Physics Society, Eastern Idaho Chapter, and possesses the following certifications:

- 1) American Board of Health Physics Exam, Part 1 (July 2019);
- 2) Advanced Mixed Waste Shipper, Department of Transportation (DOT), Atkins, 24-hr certification (October 2021);
- 3) Air Transport of Radioactive Materials (International Air Transport Association - IATA/DOT), Atkins, 8-hr re-certification (March 2021);
- 4) Advanced Radioactive Materials Shipper (IATA/DOT), Atkins, 24-hr certification (February 2019);
- 5) Laboratory Operations Supervisor Academy (LOSA), U.S. Department of Energy, Argonne National Laboratory (November 2018); and
- 6) Radiation Safety Officer, Dade Moeller/NV5, 40-hour certification (August 2018).

Based on this information, the NRC staff finds Mr. Jaussi meets the qualifications for RSO and that his appointment to this position is acceptable.

Elimination of Assistant Reactor Administrator

In its December 20, 2021, submittal, the ISU requested the elimination of the Assistant Reactor Administrator and stated that elimination of this position is due to the retirement of Dr. George Imel, who held the position. The ISU further states that the position is also being eliminated due to the expanded experience of ISU's current Reactor Administrator, Dr. Mary Lou Dunzik-Gougar who, since taking the role of Reactor Administrator, has been licensed as both a Reactor Operator and Senior Reactor Operator and knows the reactor well. As stated before, the NRC staff evaluated Dr. Dunzik-Gougar's qualifications and finds that the elimination of Assistant Reactor Administrator will not decrease the effectiveness of ISU's program, and therefore, the change is acceptable.

After removing the requested position and the appointment of the new RSO, the ISU officials' roster for the SNM-1373 license now includes the following:

President of the University

Kevin Satterlee, J.D.

Vice President for Research (Responsible University Officer)

Donna Lybecker, Ph.D.

Chairperson of the Reactor Safety Committee

Kermit Bunde, P.E.

Radiation Safety Officer

Mason Jaussi, M.S.

Reactor Administrator and Acting Reactor Supervisor

Mary Lou Dunzik-Gougar, Ph.D.

Reactor Supervisor in Training

Jonathan Scott

The NRC staff finds that the remaining officials on the roster provide reasonable assurance that the health, safety, and environmental protection functions will continue to be effective.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

A proposed action is excluded from an environmental review under 10 CFR 51.22(c)(14)(v) if it is an amendment to a license issued pursuant to 10 CFR Part 70 authorizing the use of radioactive materials for research and development and for educational purposes. The changes to Attachment I of ISU's application meet this requirement.

The NRC staff determined that the proposed action does not adversely impact public health and safety or the environment, and is categorically excluded from the requirement to conduct an environmental review. Therefore, in accordance with 10 CFR 51.22(c)(14)(v), neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is warranted for this action.

IV. CONCLUSION

As stated above, the NRC staff finds that the new RSO is qualified by reason of training and experience to use licensed material for the education, research, and training activities authorized by the license.

As stated above, the NRC staff finds that the proposed changes to the roster of university officials are acceptable. The NRC staff, therefore, recommends that ISU's request be approved.

V. PRINCIPAL CONTRIBUTOR

Osiris Siurano-Perez, NMSS