

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.  
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**[Docket No. 50-77]**

**Environmental Assessment and  
Finding of No Significant Impact  
Regarding Termination of Facility  
License No. R-31, Catholic University  
of America, AGN-201 Nuclear  
Research Reactor**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of an Order terminating Facility License No. R-31 for the Catholic University of America (the licensee) Aerojet-General Nucleonics (AGN-201) Nuclear Research Reactor located in Washington, District of Columbia, in accordance with the application dated February 6, 1992, as supplemented on June 2, 1995.

**Environmental Assessment**

*Identification of Proposed Action*

The proposed action would authorize the licensee to decontaminate and dismantle its AGN-201 Nuclear Reactor Facility, and dispose of its component parts in accordance with the proposed decommissioning plan. Following an "Order Authorizing Decommissioning Plan and Authorizing Decommissioning of the Catholic University of America Research Reactor," dated September 24, 1992, (57 FR 45094) the licensee completed the dismantlement and submitted a final survey report on December 20, 1994, as supplemented on September 22, 1995. A NRC Region I inspector conducted a survey of the Facility on November 7-9, 1995, (Inspection Report No. 50-77/95-01). Region I, in a memorandum dated December 11, 1995, concluded that their inspection findings confirmed the data developed in the licensee final survey report. The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application dated February 6, 1992.

*The Need for Proposed Action*

The proposed action is to release the facility for unrestricted access and use, and Facility License No. R-31 must be terminated.

*Environmental Impact of License Termination*

The licensee indicates that the residual contamination levels comply with the criteria of Regulatory Guide

1.86 Table 1, for unrestricted release of the facility. The licensee also indicates that the radiological exposure at the facility is also less than 5 micro R/hr above background at one meter which has also been accepted by the NRC for unrestricted release of facilities. These measurements have been verified by the NRC Region I inspection. The NRC finds that since these criteria have been met there is no significant impact on the environment and the facility can be released for unrestricted use.

*Alternatives to the Proposed Action*

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action. Denial of the application would result in no change in environmental impacts and would deny release of the site for unrestricted use and require continuance of the facility license. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar. Since the reactor and component parts have been dismantled and disposed of in accordance with NRC regulations and guidelines, there is no viable alternative to termination of Facility License No. R-31.

*Agencies and Persons Consulted*

The NRC staff consulted with the Program Manager for the Pharmaceutical, Radiological and Medical Devices Control Division of the District of Columbia regarding the proposed action.

**Finding of No Significant Impact**

Based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the issuance of the Order will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to this proposed action, see the licensee's submittal on decommissioning the facility, dated February 6, 1992, as supplemented on June 2, 1995. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 6th day of March 1996.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.  
Seymour H. Weiss,  
*Director, Non-Power Reactor and  
Decommissioning Project Directorate,  
Division of Reactor Program Management,  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*  
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**Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards**

**Subcommittee Meetings on Thermal Hydraulic Phenomena; Notice of Meeting**

The ACRS Subcommittee on Thermal Hydraulic Phenomena will hold a meeting on March 21 and 22, 1996, at the Los Angeles Airport Hilton, 5711 West Century Blvd., Los Angeles, California.

Portions of the meeting may be closed to public attendance to discuss General Electric Nuclear Energy Company proprietary information pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4).

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows:

*Thursday, March 21, 1996—8:30 a.m. until the conclusion of business.*

*Friday, March 22, 1996—8:30 a.m. until the conclusion of business.*

The Subcommittee will discuss the NRC Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) test and analysis program being conducted in support of the Simplified Boiling Water Reactor (SBWR) passive plant design certification. The purpose of this meeting is to gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and to formulate proposed positions and actions, as appropriate, for deliberation by the full Committee.

Oral statements may be presented by members of the public with the concurrence of the Subcommittee Chairman; written statements will be accepted and made available to the Committee. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting that are open to the public, and questions may be asked only by members of the Subcommittee, its consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the cognizant ACRS staff engineer named below five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

During the initial portion of the meeting, the Subcommittee, along with any of its consultants who may be present, may exchange preliminary views regarding matters to be considered during the balance of the meeting.

The Subcommittee will then hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff, its consultants, and other interested persons regarding this review.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been cancelled or rescheduled, the scheduling of sessions which are open to the public, the Chairman's ruling on