

present), at the Student Center Theatre, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia. The Board will consider holding an additional session on Wednesday evening, May 29, 1996, to the extent that such a session appears to be warranted by public demand, at a time and place to be announced.

Any person not a party to the proceeding will be permitted to make such a statement, setting forth his or her position on the issues. The number of persons making oral statements and the time allotted for each statement may be limited depending on the number of persons present at the designated time. (Normally, each oral statement may extend for up to five (5) minutes.) These statements do not constitute testimony or evidence but may assist the Licensing Board and parties in defining the scope of the issues in the proceeding.

Requests to make oral statements may be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Docketing and Service Branch, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. A copy of each such request should also be submitted to the Chairman of this Licensing Board, ASLBP, T-3 F23, Washington, DC 20555.

Documents relating to this proceeding are on file at the Commission's Local Public Document Room, located at the Decatur Library, 215 Sycamore Street, Decatur, Georgia 30030 (telephone 404-370-3070), as well as at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20037.

Dated: April 24, 1996.

For the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board.

Charles Bechhoefer,

Chairman, Administrative Judge.

[FR Doc. 96-11045 Filed 5-2-96; 8:45 am]

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[Docket No. 50-146]

Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact Regarding Proposed Order Approving License Transfer and License Amendment; Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation; Saxton Nuclear Experimental Facility

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of an Order approving transfer and license amendment to Amended Facility License No. DPR-4 issued to the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation (SNEC) for possession of the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Facility (SNEF) located in Saxton, Bedford County, Pennsylvania. The

SNEF is a small [28MW(t)] pressurized-water reactor that ceased operation in May 1972. The reactor has been defueled, the fuel has been removed from the site, and the reactor coolant system has been drained.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of Proposed Action

The proposed action would revise the amended facility license and technical specifications to add GPU Nuclear Corporation (GPU Nuclear) as a licensee for the SNEF along with SNEC and transfer from SNEC to GPU Nuclear all management-related responsibilities for the SNEF. The proposed action is in accordance with SNEC's application, dated November 21, 1995, as supplemented on March 13, 1996, with which GPU Nuclear concurs. GPU Nuclear is currently performing or managing all activities at the SNEF under contract to SNEC. Taking this action allows GPU Nuclear to conduct activities at the SNEF without the additional step of acting as a contractor.

Need for Proposed Action

The proposed action is needed to reflect the addition of GPU Nuclear as a licensee and transfer the responsibilities discussed above.

Environmental Impact of the Proposed Action

The proposed action would change the license to add GPU Nuclear as a licensee and would transfer, from SNEC to GPU Nuclear, all management-related responsibilities for the SNEF. The action is administrative in that the activities required by the license are not changed with the addition of GPU Nuclear as a licensee.

The Commission has evaluated the environmental impact of the proposed action. The scope of work at the SNEF, the probability or consequences of accidents, radiological releases from the facility, and occupational exposure will not be changed by this action. Further, the numbers and qualifications of personnel at the SNEF will not change as a result of this action. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the addition of GPU Nuclear as a licensee for the SNEF and the transfer of management-related responsibilities would not affect nonradiological effluents and would have no other environmental impact.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission has concluded that the environmental effects of the proposed action are not significant, any alternative with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the request for license transfer and amendment, which would force GPU Nuclear to remain a contractor to SNEC. This would not change the amount or scope of activities at the SNEF; therefore, denial of the application would not change current environmental impacts.

Alternative Use of Resources

No alternatives appear that will have different or lesser effect on the use of available resources.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and consulted with the Pennsylvania State official regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

On the basis of the foregoing environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action 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 detailed information with respect to this proposed action, see the application for amendment and transfer of license dated November 21, 1995, as supplemented on March 13, 1996. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20037 and at the local public document room located at the Saxton Community Library, 911 Church Street, Saxton, Pennsylvania 16678.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 25th day of April 1996.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Seymour H. Weiss,

Director, Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning Project Directorate, Division of Reactor Program Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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