DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Veterans’ Employment and Training Service
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Veterans’ Employment and Training; The Advisory Committee on Veterans’ Employment, Training and Employer Outreach (ACVETO); Notice of Open Meeting

The Advisory Committee on Veterans’ Employment, Training and Employer Outreach (ACVETO) was established pursuant to Title II of the Veterans’ Housing Opportunity and Benefits Improvement Act of 2006 (Pub. L. 109–233) and Section 9 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (Pub. L. 92–463, Title 5 U.S.C. app. II). The ACVETO’s authority is codified in Title 38 U.S. Code, Section 4110.

The ACVETO is responsible for assessing employment and training needs of veterans; determining the extent to which the programs and activities of the Department of Labor meet these needs; and assisting in carrying out outreach to employers seeking to hire veterans.

The Advisory Committee on Veterans’ Employment Training and Employer Outreach will meet on Tuesday, July 31st from 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. at the U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC (202–693–4700). The committee will discuss programs assisting veterans seeking employment and raising employer awareness as to the advantages of hiring veterans.

Individuals needing special accommodations should notify Bill Offutt at (202) 693–4717 by July 23rd, 2007.

Signed in Washington, DC, this 18th day of June, 2007.

Charles S. Ciccolella,
Assistant Secretary, Veterans Employment and Training.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50–182 EA–07–160]

In the Matter of Purdue University (Purdue University Research Reactor); Order Modifying Facility Operating License No. R–87

I

Purdue University (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. R–87 (the license) issued on August 16, 1962, by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, and subsequently renewed on August 8, 1988, by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the NRC or the Commission). The license authorizes operation of Purdue University Research Reactor (the facility) at a power level up to 1 kilowatt thermal. The facility is a research reactor located on the campus of Purdue University, in the city of West Lafayette, Tippecanoe County, Indiana. The mailing address is Radiation Laboratories, Purdue University, Nuclear Engineering Building, 400 Central Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47907–2017.

II

Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Section 50.64, limits the use of high-enriched uranium (HEU) fuel in domestic non-power reactors (research and test reactors) (see 51 FR 6514). The regulation, which became effective on March 27, 1986, requires that if Federal Government funding for conversion-related costs is available, each licensee of a non-power reactor authorized to use HEU fuel shall replace it with low-enriched uranium (LEU) fuel acceptable to the Commission unless the Commission has determined that the reactor has a unique purpose. The Commission’s stated purpose for these requirements was to reduce, to the maximum extent possible, the use of HEU fuel in order to reduce the risk of theft and diversion of HEU fuel used in non-power reactors.

Paragraphs 50.64(b)(2)(i) and (ii) require that a licensee of a non-power reactor: (1) Not acquire more HEU fuel if LEU fuel that is acceptable to the Commission for that reactor is available when the licensee proposes to acquire HEU fuel and (2) replace all HEU fuel in its possession with available LEU fuel acceptable to the Commission for that reactor in accordance with a schedule determined pursuant to 10 CFR 50.64(c)(2).

Paragraph 50.64(c)(2)(i) requires, among other things, that each licensee of a non-power reactor authorized to possess and to use HEU fuel develop and submit to the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (Director) by March 27, 1987, and at 12-month intervals thereafter, a written proposal for meeting the requirements of the rule. The licensee shall include in its proposal a certification that Federal Government funding for conversion is available through the U.S. Department of Energy or other appropriate Federal agency and a schedule for conversion, based upon availability of replacement fuel acceptable to the Commission for that reactor and upon consideration of other factors such as the availability of shipping casks, implementation of arrangements for available financial support, and reactor usage.

Paragraph 50.64(c)(2)(ii) requires the licensee to include in the proposal, to the extent required to effect conversion, all necessary changes to the license, to the facility, and to licensee procedures. This paragraph also requires the licensee to submit supporting safety analyses in time to meet the conversion schedule.

Paragraph 50.64(c)(2)(iii) also requires the Director to review the license proposal, to confirm the status of Federal Government funding, and to determine a final schedule, if the licensee has submitted a schedule for conversion.

Section 50.64(c)(3) requires the Director to review the supporting safety analyses and to issue an appropriate enforcement order directing both the conversion and, to the extent consistent with protection of public health and safety, any necessary changes to the license, the facility, and licensee procedures. In the Federal Register notice of the final rule (51 FR 6514), the Commission explained that in most, if not all, cases, the enforcement order would be an order to modify the license under 10 CFR 2.204 (now 10 CFR 2.202).

Section 2.309 states the requirements for a person whose interest may be affected by any proceeding to initiate a hearing or to participate as a party.

III

On August 13, 2006, as supplemented on May 3, 2007, the licensee submitted its conversion proposal. The NRC staff is in the process of reviewing the conversion proposal. On May 25, 2007, the licensee submitted an additional letter as part of its conversion proposal, which indicated that early approval to changes to the uranium-235 possession limit in its license was needed to support the proposed schedule for conversion to LEU fuel. The receipt and possession, but not use in the reactor, of the LEU fuel are required by the licensee at this time to assemble the fuel elements in order to meet the proposed timely conversion. The LEU fuel contains the uranium-235 isotope at an enrichment of less than 20 percent. The NRC staff reviewed the licensee’s proposal and the requirements of 10 CFR 50.64, and has determined that the public health and safety and common defense and security require the licensee to receive and possess the LEU fuel prior to the conversion. This is necessary so the LEU fuel elements may be prepared to convert the reactor from...