

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

- 7937 Railroad Accident Report—Derailment of Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Train near the Mt. Vernon Square Station, Washington, DC, January 7, 2007 (DCA-07-FR-005).
- 7928 Brief of Accident—Brief and Safety Recommendations to the Federal Aviation Administration and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Concerning Deficiencies in the Design, Operation, and Safety Management of Unmanned Aircraft Systems.
- 7928A Recommendation To Convene a Public Forum—The Safety of Unmanned Aircraft System Operations and Investigative Methodologies for Unmanned Aircraft Accidents and Incidents.

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT: Telephone: (202) 314-6100.

Individuals requesting specific accommodations should contact Chris Bisett at (202) 314-6305 by Friday, October 12, 2007.

The public may view the meeting via a live or archived webcast by accessing a link under “News & Events” on the NTSB home page at <http://www.nts.gov>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Vicky D’Onofrio, (202) 314-6410.

Dated: Friday, October 5, 2007.

Vicky D’Onofrio,

Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 030-05154]

Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for License Amendment to Byproduct Materials License No. 24-13365-01, for Unrestricted Release of the ABC Laboratories Facilities in Columbia, MO

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Issuance of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for License Amendment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

William Snell, Senior Health Physicist, Decommissioning Branch, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, Region III, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 2443 Warrenville Road, Lisle, Illinois

60532; telephone: (630) 829-9871; fax number: (630) 515-1259; or by e-mail at wgs@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering the issuance of a license amendment to Byproduct Materials License No. 24-13365-01. This license is held by ABC Laboratories (the Licensee), for facilities, located at 7200 E. ABC Lane, Columbia, Missouri. Issuance of the amendment would authorize release of Buildings C and G for unrestricted use. The Licensee requested this action in a letter dated June 5, 2007 (ADAMS Accession No. ML071630523). The NRC has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) in support of this proposed action in accordance with the requirements of Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 51 (10 CFR Part 51). Based on the EA, the NRC has concluded that a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is appropriate with respect to the proposed action. The amendment will be issued to the Licensee following the publication of this FONSI and EA in the **Federal Register**.

II. Environmental Assessment

Identification of Proposed Action

The proposed action would approve the Licensee’s June 5, 2007 license amendment request, resulting in release of Buildings C and G for unrestricted use. License No. 24-13365-01 was issued on August 5, 1969, pursuant to 10 CFR Part 30, and has been amended periodically since that time. This license authorized the Licensee to use byproduct materials for activities involving research and development, possession, use, processing, and packaging incident to manufacture of radiochemicals, storage prior to distribution, and interim storage of radioactive waste prior to disposal.

Buildings C and G are situated on a 56 acre site and are 2 of 13 buildings. Building C was constructed in 1976 as a wood frame building on a concrete slab which was later converted to a metal sided building, and was used for animal studies mainly using carbon-14 or tritium tagged materials. Building G was constructed in 1980 as a wood frame building with steel roof on a concrete slab and was used to store primarily carbon-14 and tritium radioactive waste prior to disposal. The site is located in a mixed residential, agricultural and commercial area.

The licensee ceased using licensed materials in Building C in March 2006 and Building G in July 2006 and

initiated surveys and decontamination of the buildings. Based on the Licensee’s historical knowledge of the site and the conditions of the Facility, the Licensee determined that only routine decontamination activities, in accordance with their NRC-approved, operating radiation safety procedures, were required. The Licensee was not required to submit a decommissioning plan to the NRC because worker cleanup activities and procedures are consistent with those approved for routine operations. The Licensee conducted surveys of Building C in June 2006 and Building G in September 2006 and provided information to the NRC to demonstrate that they meet the criteria in Subpart E of 10 CFR Part 20 for unrestricted release.

Need for the Proposed Action

The Licensee has ceased conducting licensed activities in Buildings C and G, and seeks the unrestricted use of Buildings C and G.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The historical review of licensed activities conducted in Buildings C and G shows that such activities involved use of the following radionuclides with half-lives greater than 120 days: hydrogen-3 and carbon-14. Prior to performing the final status survey, the Licensee conducted decontamination activities, as necessary, in the areas of Buildings C and G affected by these radionuclides.

The Licensee completed final status surveys on Building C on June 6, 2006, and on Building G on September 22, 2006. These surveys covered all areas of Building C and Building G. The final status survey report was attached to the Licensee’s amendment request dated June 5, 2007. The Licensee elected to demonstrate compliance with the radiological criteria for unrestricted release as specified in 10 CFR 20.1402 using the screening approach described in NUREG-1757, “Consolidated NMSS Decommissioning Guidance,” Volume 2. The Licensee used the radionuclide-specific derived concentration guideline levels (DCGLs), developed there by the NRC, which comply with the dose criterion in 10 CFR 20.1402. These DCGLs define the maximum amount of residual radioactivity on building surfaces, equipment, and materials, and in soils, that will satisfy the NRC requirements in Subpart E of 10 CFR Part 20 for unrestricted release. The NRC conducted independent radiological surveys of the Buildings C and G and identified no radiological contamination in Building C in excess

of background. (NRC Inspection Report 030-05154/07-001 (DNMS) dated April 19, 2007, ADAMS Accession No. ML071090194.) However, the NRC identified levels of radiological contamination in excess of the NRC's unrestricted use criteria on the floor of Building G. The licensee performed additional decontamination and re-surveyed of the floor of Building G in April 2007. The Licensee's final status survey results were below these DCGLs and are in compliance with the As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA) requirement of 10 CFR 20.1402. The NRC thus finds that the Licensee's final status survey results are acceptable.

Based on its review, the staff has determined that the affected environment and any environmental impacts associated with the proposed action are bounded by the impacts evaluated by the "Generic Environmental Impact Statement in Support of Rulemaking on Radiological Criteria for License Termination of NRC-Licensed Nuclear Facilities" (NUREG-1496) Volumes 1-3 (ML042310492, ML042320379, and ML042330385). The staff finds there were no significant environmental impacts from the use of radioactive material in Buildings C and G. The NRC staff reviewed the docket file records and the final status survey report to identify any non-radiological hazards that may have impacted the environment surrounding Buildings C and G. No such hazards or impacts to the environment were identified. The NRC has identified no other radiological or non-radiological activities in the area that could result in cumulative environmental impacts.

The NRC staff finds that the proposed release of Buildings C and G for unrestricted use and the termination of the NRC materials license is in compliance with 10 CFR Part 20. Based on its review, the staff considered the impact of the residual radioactivity from Buildings C and G and concluded that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

Environmental Impacts of the Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Due to the largely administrative nature of the proposed action, its environmental impacts are small. Therefore, the only alternative the staff considered is the no-action alternative, under which the staff would leave things as they are by simply denying the amendment request. This no-action alternative is not feasible because it conflicts with 10 CFR 30.36(d), requiring that decommissioning of byproduct material facilities be

completed and approved by the NRC after licensed activities cease. The NRC's analysis of the Licensee's final status survey data confirmed that Buildings C and G meet the requirements of 10 CFR 20.1402 for unrestricted release. Additionally, denying the amendment request would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the no-action alternative are therefore similar, and the no-action alternative is accordingly not further considered.

Conclusion

The NRC staff has concluded that the proposed action is consistent with the NRC's unrestricted release criteria specified in 10 CFR 20.1402. Because the proposed action will not significantly impact the quality of the human environment, the NRC staff concludes that the proposed action is the preferred alternative.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

NRC provided a draft of this Environmental Assessment to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) for review on September 7, 2007. On September 7, 2007, Mr. John Langston, Manager, Health Services Regulation, Division of Regulation and Licensure, with the Missouri DHSS responded by e-mail. The State agreed with the conclusions of the EA, and otherwise had no comments.

The NRC staff has determined that the proposed action is of a procedural nature, and will not affect listed species or critical habitat. Therefore, no further consultation is required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. The NRC staff has also determined that the proposed action is not the type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties. Therefore, no further consultation is required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

III. Finding of No Significant Impact

The NRC staff has prepared this EA in support of the proposed action. On the basis of this EA, the NRC finds that there are no significant environmental impacts from the proposed action, and that preparation of an environmental impact statement is not warranted. Accordingly, the NRC has determined that a Finding of No Significant Impact is appropriate.

IV. Further Information

Documents related to this action, including the application for license

amendment and supporting documentation, are available electronically at the NRC's Electronic Reading Room at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. From this site, you can access the NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS), which provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. The documents related to this action are listed below, along with their ADAMS accession numbers.

1. G. S. Ward, ABC Laboratories, letter to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region III, ATTN: Kevin Null, dated June 05, 2007 (ADAMS Accession No. ML071630523);

2. S. C. Hecht, ABC Laboratories, letter to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region III, ATTN: Bill Snell, dated August 20, 2007 (ADAMS Accession No. ML072360539);

3. NRC Inspection Report No. 030-05154/07-001 (DNMS) dated April 19, 2007 (ADAMS Accession No. ML071090194);

4. Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20, Subpart E, "Radiological Criteria for License Termination;"

5. Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 51, "Environmental Protection Regulations for Domestic Licensing and Related Regulatory Functions;"

6. NUREG-1496, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement in Support of Rulemaking on Radiological Criteria for License Termination of NRC-Licensed Nuclear Facilities;"

7. NUREG-1757, "Consolidated NMSS Decommissioning Guidance."

If you do not have access to ADAMS, or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov. These documents may also be viewed electronically on the public computers located at the NRC's PDR, O 1 F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. The PDR reproduction contractor will copy documents for a fee.

Dated at Lisle, Illinois, this 27th day of September 2007.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

Patrick Loudon,

Chief, Decommissioning Branch, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, Region III.

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