

- Put all information in the main text; references may be used for background information.

- Transmit the submissions as electronic documents to nitr-sp@nitr.gov.

- Limit the size of documents to two pages.

Note that this is an initial opportunity for public input to the strategic planning process; additional opportunities are expected as the plan is developed.

This invitation is not a funding opportunity or a solicitation for proposals. Anonymized versions of some responses will be made publicly available to promote further discussion.

The NITRD public Web site at <http://www.nitr.gov> provides background information on the activities of the NITRD Program and its interagency coordinating groups. For general inquiries, please send e-mail to nco@nitr.gov.

Chris Greer,

Director, NCO, Co-Chair, NITRD Subcommittee.

Jeannette Wing,

Assistant Director, NSF/CISE, Co-Chair, NITRD Subcommittee.

Submitted by the National Science Foundation for the National Coordination Office (NCO) for Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD) on July 21, 2008.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. E8-16975 Filed 7-24-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permits Issued Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. This is the required notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nadene G. Kennedy, Permit Office, Office of Polar Programs, Rm. 755, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 27, 2008, the National Science Foundation published a notice in the Federal Register of permit applications received. A permit was issued on July

21, 2008 to: Terrie M. Williams; Permit No. 2009-005.

Nadene G. Kennedy,
Permit Officer.

[FR Doc. E8-17007 Filed 7-24-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 030-11209]

Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for Amendment of Byproduct Materials License No. 21-16544-01, for Unrestricted Release of a Facility in Ann Arbor, MI

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Peter J. Lee, PhD, CHP, Health Physicist, Decommissioning Branch, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, Region III, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 2443 Warrenville Road, Lisle, Illinois 60532; telephone: (630) 829-9870; fax number: (630) 515-1259; or by e-mail at Peter.Lee@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is proposing to amend Byproduct Materials License No. 21-16544-01. This license is held by the Department of Commerce (the Licensee) for its Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory facility located at 2205 Commonwealth Boulevard, Ann Arbor, Michigan (the Facility). Issuance of the amendment would authorize release of the Facility for unrestricted use. The Licensee requested this action in a letter dated September 19, 2007. 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 September 19, 2007, license amendment request, resulting in release of the Facility for unrestricted use. License No. 21-16544-01 was issued on July 8, 1975, pursuant to 10 CFR part 30, and has been amended periodically since that time. The license authorizes the use of byproduct materials for in-vitro laboratory research studies and neutron activation studies on soil samples. The Licensee ceased using licensed materials in the Facility in 2007. The Licensee has conducted final status surveys of the Facility. The results of these surveys along with other supporting information were provided to the NRC to demonstrate that the criteria in Subpart E of 10 CFR part 20 for unrestricted release have been met.

Need for the Proposed Action

The Licensee has ceased conducting licensed activities at the Facility and seeks the unrestricted use of its Facility.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The historical review of licensed activities conducted at the Facility shows that such activities involved use of the following radionuclides with half-lives greater than 120 days: Hydrogen-3, carbon-14, antimony-125, cadmium-109, calcium-45, cerium-144, cesium-134, cesium-137, chlorine-36, cobalt-60, iodine-129, iron-55, manganese-54, polonium-209, polonium-210, radium-226, silver-100m, sodium-22, and zinc-65. Prior to performing the final status survey, the Licensee conducted decontamination activities, as necessary, in the areas of the Facility affected by these radionuclides.

The Licensee completed final status surveys on the Facility on June 28, 2007. The surveys covered all areas of the Facility. The final status survey report was attached to the Licensee's amendment request dated September 19, 2007. The Licensee elected to demonstrate compliance with the radiological criteria for unrestricted release as specified in 10 CFR 20.1402 by using the screening values described in NUREG-1757, "Consolidated NMSS Decommissioning Guidance," Volume 2 as the radionuclide-specific derived concentration guideline levels (DCGLs). These values provide acceptable levels of surface contamination to demonstrate compliance with the NRC requirements in Subpart E of 10 CFR part 20 for unrestricted release. The Licensee's final status survey results were below these values 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 at the Facility. The NRC staff reviewed available docket file records and the survey results to identify any non-radiological hazards that may have impacted the environment surrounding the Facility. 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 issuance of the proposed amendment authorizing release of the Facility for unrestricted use is in compliance with 10 CFR part 20. Based on its review, the staff considered the impact of the residual radioactivity at the Facility 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 the Facility meets 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 Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for review on May 27, 2008. By response dated May 27, 2008, the State agreed with the conclusions of the EA, and otherwise provided 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. Kimberly A. Kulpanowski, U.S. Department of Commerce, letter dated September 19, 2007 (ADAMS Accession No. ML081370332);

2. Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20, Subpart E,

"Radiological Criteria for License Termination;"

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

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

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

6. By response dated May 27, 2008, the State had no comments.

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 15th day of July 2008.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Christine A. Lipa,

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

[FR Doc. E8-17118 Filed 7-24-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-263]

Nuclear Management Company; Notice of Withdrawal of Application for Amendment to Facility Operating License

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted the request of Nuclear Management Company, LLC (the licensee), to withdraw its March 31, 2008 (Agencywide Document Access and Management System Accession No. ML081010189) application, as supplemented by letters dated May 20, May 28, May 30, June 3, June 5, June 12, and June 25, 2008 (Accession Nos. ML081430494, ML081490639, ML081550504, ML081550640, ML081570467, ML081640435, and ML081770562) for proposed amendment to Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-22 for the Monticello Nuclear Generation Plant, located in Wright County, Minnesota.

The proposed amendment would have increased the current maximum