



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 7, 2019

Roy Blickwedel, Project Manager
General Electric
Global Operations,
Environment, Health & Safety
503 Springbrook Lane
Wayne, PA 19087

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE REVIEW OF LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR
BYPRODUCT MATERIALS LICENSE SUA-1475, UNITED NUCLEAR
CORPORATION CHURCH ROCK MILL SITE

Dear Mr. Blickwedel:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff received General Electric's (GE) September 24, 2018 request to amend byproduct materials license SUA-1475 for the United Nuclear Corporation Church Rock Mill Site in Gallup, New Mexico NRC's (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession number ML18267A235). GE provided supplemental information by e-mail dated December 21, 2018 (ML18360A424). In its amendment request, GE requested NRC approval of revision to its reclamation plan to construct a repository for non-11e.(2) byproduct material mine waste on the 11e.(2) byproduct material tailings disposal area at the Church Rock Mill Site.

As also noted in a December 21, 2018 e-mail (ADAMS Accession Number ML19007A126), the NRC has accepted GE's amendment request for detailed technical review. The detailed technical review may identify omissions in the submitted information or technical issues that require additional information.

The NRC staff will use the guidance in NUREG-1620, Rev. 1, "Standard Review Plan for the Review of a Reclamation Plan for Mill Tailings Sites Under Title II of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978," Appendix I, "Recent Changes to Uranium Recovery Policy," including Attachment 1, "Interim Guidance on Disposal of Non-Atomic Energy Act of 1954, Section 11e. (2) Byproduct Material in Tailings Impoundments" in its review, as appropriate.

The NRC staff has prepared an initial schedule for its review of this amendment request. The schedule shown below is based on several assumptions, including:

- Timely input and agreement from other Federal government agencies on the acceptability of the proposed amendment, including the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- No hearing is requested on the license amendment.
- There are no cooperating agencies on the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement.

- Timely resolution of any issues or concerns raised during consultations with other Federal, State, tribal, and local agencies, such as those required by Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.
- Timely (i.e., within 90 days) and high-quality applicant responses to the NRC staff's requests for additional information (RAIs).

The initial schedule for the NRC staff review is as follows:

NRC Milestones	Projected Completion date
Safety review RAIs – Group 1	May 2019
Safety review RAIs – Group 2	July 2019
Environmental review RAIs	August 2019
Safety Evaluation Report	July 2020
Draft Environmental Impact Statement	July 2020
Final Environmental Impact Statement	August 2021
Complete Concurrence Process with appropriate Federal and State entities.	December 2021
Issue Amendment Decision	January 2022

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

In addition, the NRC will also notice an opportunity for hearing for this licensing action review via a Federal Register Notice.

R. Blickwedel

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If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-6103.

Sincerely,

/RA/

James Smith, Project Manager
Uranium Recovery and Materials
Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 040-08907
License No.: SUA-1475

R. Blickwedel

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