

- Report on the results of the San Diego Workshop and implications for Sun-Earth Connection (SEC).
- SEC status, including reports on Solar Terrestrial Probe and Living with a Star Lines.
- Report on the Applied Physics Laboratory Solar Probe Study.
- Discussion of Prognosis for Low Cost Access to Space.
- Discussion of Draft Office of Space Science Strategic Plan.
- Science results from High Energy Solar Spectroscopic Imager and Solar Anomalous and Magnetospheric Particle Explorer.

It is imperative that the meeting be held on these dates to accommodate the scheduling priorities of the key participants. Visitors will be requested to sign a visitor's register.

June W. Edwards,

*Advisory Committee Management Officer,
National Aeronautics and Space
Administration.*

[FR Doc. 03-3110 Filed 2-6-03; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice (03-010)]

Notice of Prospective Patent License

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ACTION: Notice of prospective patent license.

SUMMARY: NASA hereby gives notice that Graftel, Inc., of Rolling Meadows, IL, has applied for a partially exclusive patent license to practice the invention disclosed in NASA Case No. KSC-12220 entitled "Current Signature Sensor" for which a U.S. Patent Application was filed and assigned to the United States of America as represented by the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The field of use will be the electric utility industry. Written objections to the prospective grant of a license should be sent to John F. Kennedy Space Center.

DATES: Responses to this notice must be received by February 24, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Randall M. Heald, Assistant Chief Counsel/Patent Counsel, John F. Kennedy Space Center, Mail Code CC-A, Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899, telephone (321) 867-7214.

Dated: January 31, 2003.

Robert M. Stephens,

Deputy General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 03-3109 Filed 2-6-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-369 and 50-370]

Duke Power Company, McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2; Exemption

1.0 Background

The Duke power Company (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-9 and NPF-17, for the McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2. The licenses provide, among other things, that the licensee is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect.

These facilities consist of two pressurized water reactors located at the licensee's site in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

2.0 Request/Action

Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) at subsection (a) of 10 CFR 70.24, "Criticality Accident Requirements," requires that each licensee authorized to possess special nuclear material shall maintain in each area where such material is handled, used, or stored, a criticality accident monitoring system "using gamma- or neutron-sensitive radiation detectors which will energize clearly audible alarm signals if accident criticality occurs." Subsection (a)(1) and (a)(2) of 10 CFR 70.24 specify the detection, sensitivity, and coverage capabilities of the monitors required by 10 CFR 70.24(a). Subsection (a)(3) of 10 CFR 70.24 requires that the licensee shall maintain emergency procedures for each area in which this licensed special nuclear material is handled, used, or stored and provides (1) that the procedures ensure that all personnel withdraw to an area of safety upon the sounding of a criticality monitor alarm, (2) that the procedures must include drills to familiarize personnel with the evacuation plan, and (3) that the procedures designate responsible individuals for determining the cause of the alarm and placement of radiation survey instruments in accessible locations for use in such an emergency. Subsection (b)(1) requires licensees to have a means to quickly identify personnel who have received a dose of 10 rads or more. Subsection (b)(2)

requires licensees to maintain personnel decontamination facilities, to maintain arrangements for a physician and other medical personnel qualified to handle radiation emergencies, and to maintain arrangements for the transportation of contaminated individuals to treatment facilities outside the site boundary. Subsection (c) exempts part 50 licensees (such as McGuire) from the requirements of paragraph (b).

By letter dated February 4, 1997, as supplemented March 19, 1997, Duke Power Company (the licensee) requested an exemption for all its nuclear plants from the requirements of 10 CFR 70.24. The staff reviewed the licensee's submittal and determined that procedures and design features made an inadvertent criticality in special nuclear materials handling or storage at McGuire unlikely, in accordance with General Design Criterion 62. Accordingly, the staff granted an Exemption on July 31, 1997. Part of the basis for that exemption was that the criticality parameter of k-effective (k_{eff}) would remain less than or equal to 0.95 when the spent fuel pool was filled with unborated water. By letter dated April 18, 2002, as supplemented on August 7 and October 9, 2002, and January 15, 2003, the licensee submitted an application for revisions to the McGuire Technical Specifications to address the spent fuel pool Boraflex degradation issues. The analysis supporting this application proposed to take partial credit for boron in the spent fuel pool water. Therefore, a part of the technical basis for which the 10 CFR 70.24 exemption was granted on July 31, 1997, has changed. The staff has reviewed the licensee's application and continues to find that existing procedures and design features make an inadvertent criticality in special nuclear materials handling or storage at McGuire unlikely.

3.0 Discussion

Pursuant to section 70.17 of 10 CFR, "Specific exemptions," the Commission may, upon application by any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant such exemptions from the requirements of the regulations in this part as it determines are authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security and are otherwise in the public interest.

The staff concludes, on the basis provided above, that the licensee has thus met the intent of 10 CFR 70.24 by the low probability of an inadvertent criticality in areas where fresh fuel could be present, by the licensee's adherence to General Design Criterion 63 regarding radiation monitoring, and