



Canadian Nuclear
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne
de sûreté nucléaire

Record of Proceedings, Including Reasons for Decision

In the Matter of

Applicant TRIUMF Accelerators Inc.

Subject Application to Amend the Particle Accelerator
Operating Licence

Hearing
Date March 4, 2011

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Applicant: TRIUMF Accelerators Inc.

Address/Location: 4004 Wesbrook Mall, Vancouver, BC, V6T 2A3

Purpose: Application to amend the Operating Licence for the TRIUMF Particle Accelerator Facility

Applications received: February 8, 2011 and February 21, 2011

Date of hearing: March 4, 2011

Location: Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) 280 Slater St., Ottawa, Ontario

Members present: M. Binder, Chair

Secretary: K. McGee

Recording Secretary: S. Dimitrijevic

Licence: Amended

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Introduction

1. TRIUMF Accelerators Inc. (TRIUMF) has applied to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission¹ (CNSC) for an amendment to its operating licence for the TRIUMF particle accelerator facility, located on the campus of the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, British Columbia. The current operating licence is PA1OL-01.03/2012 (the Licence), which expires on March 31, 2012.
2. TRIUMF is the national centre for subatomic research and conducts fundamental and applied research in physics. Under the Licence, TRIUMF operates one Class IB and six Class II particle accelerator facilities and produces and uses a variety of radioisotopes.
3. TRIUMF requested two amendments to the licence. The first one has been requested to allow TRIUMF to temporarily relocate a section of the security fence on the west side of its site to facilitate the construction of a new stores building. The second amendment is administrative in nature and has been requested in order to update the licence condition related to reporting requirements for fissile and fertile material.

Issue

4. In considering the application, the Commission was required to decide, pursuant to subsection 24(4) of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*² (NSCA):
 - a) if TRIUMF is qualified to carry on the activity that the amended licence would authorize; and
 - b) if, in carrying on that activity, TRIUMF would make adequate provision for the protection of the environment, the health and safety of persons and the maintenance of national security and measures required to implement international obligations to which Canada has agreed.

Hearing

5. Pursuant to section 22 of the NSCA, the President of the Commission established a Panel of the Commission to review the application. The Commission, in making its decision, considered information presented for a hearing held on March 4, 2011 in Ottawa, Ontario. During the hearing, the Commission considered a written submission from CNSC staff (CMD 11-H110).

¹ The *Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission* is referred to as the “CNSC” when referring to the organization and its staff in general, and as the “Commission” when referring to the tribunal component.

² Statutes of Canada (S.C.) 1997, chapter (c.) 9.

Decision

6. Based on its consideration of the matter, as described in more detail in the following sections of this *Record of Proceedings*, the Commission concludes that TRIUMF Accelerators Inc has met the conditions of subsection 24(4) of the NSCA. Therefore,

the Commission, pursuant to section 24 of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*, amends the Particle accelerator operating licence PA1OL-01.03/2012 issued to TRIUMF Accelerators Inc. for its particle accelerator facility located in Vancouver, British Columbia. The amended licence, PA1OL-01.04/2012, is valid until March 31, 2012.

7. The Commission includes in the licence the conditions as recommended by CNSC staff in CMD 11-H110.

Issues and Commission Findings

Qualifications and Protection Measures

8. CNSC staff reported that they had assessed the request for two licence amendments submitted by TRIUMF. In their application received on February 8, 2011, TRIUMF requested that the Commission authorize temporary relocation of a section of the security fence on the west side of the secure site to facilitate the construction of a new stores building.
9. CNSC staff informed the Commission that TRIUMF intends to begin the construction of a new stores building. The requested temporary relocation of the west perimeter fence would be done according to the drawings submitted by TRIUMF so that the construction area remains outside of the secure perimeter. CNSC staff noted that the temporary fence meet specifications and would be in place before the existing fence section is removed.
10. CNSC staff further informed the Commission that, upon completion of the construction, the fence would be moved to its permanent location and the newly constructed building would be incorporated into the Class I site. The new section of perimeter security fence would be in place and commissioned before the temporary fence section is removed and taken out of service. Consequently, the fence relocation would not adversely affect security at the site.
11. In their second application, received on February 21, 2011, TRIUMF requested an update to their operating licence condition 7.10, related to reporting requirements for fissile and fertile material. This update is necessary due to the release of regulatory document "*RD-336 Reporting of Accounting and Reporting of Nuclear Material*", which is referred to in licence condition 7.10 and has become effective on January 1,

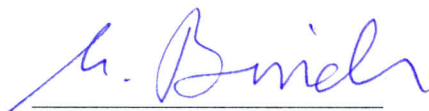
2011. This update had been initially requested by CNSC staff, and TRIUMF's application was submitted in response to that request.

Application of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*

12. Before making a licensing decision, the Commission must be satisfied that all applicable requirements of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*³ (CEAA) have been fulfilled.
13. CNSC staff reported that it had completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) determination. CNSC staff determined that the project is excluded under section 7 of the CEAA and schedule 1 of the *Exclusion List Regulations, 2007*⁴, and that there was no requirement for an EA, pursuant to subsection 5(1) of the CEAA.
14. The Commission accepts the opinion of CNSC staff and is satisfied that all applicable requirements of the CEAA have been fulfilled.

Conclusion

15. The Commission has considered the submissions of TRIUMF and CNSC staff as presented in the material available for reference on the record.
16. The Commission is satisfied that the applicant meets the requirements of subsection 24(4) of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*.
17. The Commission therefore amends, pursuant to section 24 of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*, the operating licence PA10L-01.03/2012 issued to TRIUMF Accelerators Inc. for its TRIUMF particle accelerator facility. The amended licence, PA10L-01.04/2012, remains valid until March 31, 2012.



Michael Binder
President,
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

MAR 04 2011

Date

³ Statutes of Canada, S.C. 1992, c. 37.

⁴ Statutory Orders and Regulations, S.O.R./2007-108