

## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 17, 2022

Jennifer Wheeler, Director Regulatory Affairs, Fuel Production TRISO-X 400 Centrifuge Way Oak Ridge, TN 37830

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF TRISO-X EXEMPTION REQUEST TO SUPPORT SUBMITTAL

OF THE SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDS ANALYSIS REPORT IN ADVANCE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT (ENTERPRISE PROJECT IDENTIFIER

(ENTERPRISE PROJECT IDENTIFIER L-2022-LLE-0007)

## Dear Jennifer Wheeler:

Triso-X, LLC (Triso-X), a wholly owned subsidiary of X-Energy, LLC, submitted a letter dated February 4, 2022 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] Accession No. ML22039A050), requesting an exemption from requirements in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), sections 51.60(a), "Environmental report—materials licenses" and 70.21(f), "Filing." The exemption request supports Triso-X's plans to submit a license application in 2022 to possess and use special nuclear material for processing and fuel fabrication. The exemption requests authorization to submit the application in multiple parts: the safety and safeguards analysis report (SAR), followed by the environmental report (ER). Under the current regulations, an applicant must submit the ER and SAR together as a complete package.

A safety evaluation report of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's review of the exemption request is attached in the enclosure. The staff finds that granting the exemption is authorized by law, will not endanger life or property or common defense and security, and is otherwise in the public interest. Therefore, the staff grants Triso-X a temporary exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 70.21(f) and 10 CFR 51.60(a), until one year after official receipt of the SAR in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System. Neither granting the exemption request nor beginning a review of the SAR prior to receipt of the ER indicates a commitment by the NRC to accept the license application for docketing.

This letter concludes action on this submittal, and Enterprise Project Identifier L-2022-LLE-0007 is closed.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter and enclosures will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) and in ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <a href="http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html">http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html</a>. The PDR is currently closed. You may submit your request to the PDR via e-mail at PDR.Resource@nrc.gov or call 1-800-397-4209 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (EST), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact Matthew Bartlett at 301-415-7154 or via e-mail at Matthew.Bartlett@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Mana R. Ketton Signed by Helton, Shana on 03/17/22

Shana R. Helton, Director Division of Fuel Management Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Docket No. 70-7027

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation Report

cc: xenergy@listmgr.nrc.gov

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