



October 29, 2024

Dr. Kevin Sightler
Substantive Change Office
SACS Commission on Colleges
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, GA 30033

Re: SC028312 – Request for Additional Information – Program Closure – Graduate Certificate in Nuclear Criticality Safety

Dear Kevin,

Please find the additional requested information regarding the closure of the graduate certificate in Nuclear Criticality Safety below.

1. Please provide a description of how prospective students were/will be notified of the closure.

The closure of the Nuclear Criticality Safety graduate certificate program was communicated to students through the faculty involved in teaching the courses that were part of the certificate, namely NE 421, NE 543 and NE 582, along with the additional certificate elective courses NE 470 or NE 571.

2. Please provide a description of how the institutional community, including applicants to the program, recruiters, and admissions staff were informed of the program closure.

On February 20, 2020, Graduate Council approved the closure of the Nuclear Criticality Safety graduate certificate program. The department manages its own recruiting for prospective graduate students, through its graduate committee, with a department website and graduate handbook providing the information for prospective students. Following the closure of the Nuclear Criticality Safety graduate certificate program, this program was no longer listed in those places. The department does not believe this caused a significant impact on student interest or success, as the courses that were part of the graduate certificate remain available for students to develop a concentration in nuclear criticality safety.

Office of Institutional Effectiveness
5723 Middlebrook Pike, Suite 218, Knoxville, TN 37921
865-974-6964 IEDept@utk.edu ie.utk.edu

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October 29, 2024
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Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather H. Hartman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Heather Hartman
SACSCOC Liaison