

Case No: 2001-0174
Date Rec'd: 3-13-01
Action Off: Brown
Assigned Case:

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March 7, 2001
OGW-2001-047

Ms. Carol Ann Reed
Freedom of Information / Local Public
Document Room Branch
M/S T6D8
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Ms. Reed:

This is a Freedom of Information Act Request pursuant to 5 USC § 552(a) (3) and to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) policies and regulations, 10 CFR § 9.23. I am requesting a copy of the Office of Investigations Report No. 4-2000-029, "NRC Concerns About Chilling Effect at the University of Missouri-Columbia Research Reactor." This report should be available inasmuch as the investigation was formally completed on October 24, 2000. A synopsis of the report was attached in a letter sent to Chancellor Richard L. Wallace of the University of Missouri. It is included here to answer questions you might have in researching this report.

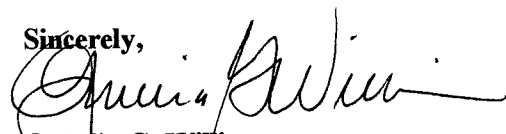
Synopsis: This investigation was initiated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of Investigations, Region IV, on May 15, 2000, to determine if a senior research scientist at the University of Missouri Research Reactor (MURR), University of Missouri-Columbia (MU), Columbia, Missouri, was the subject of employment discrimination by management for raising safety concerns.

Based on a review of the testimony, documentary evidence developed during the investigation and coordination with the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation technical staff and Office of General Counsel, the allegation that a senior research scientist at the MURR, MU, Columbia, Missouri, was the subject of employment discrimination by management for raising safety concerns was not substantiated. It was further concluded that the anonymous allegation that MURR management created a potential chilling effect was substantiated.

I would appreciate your prompt response within ten working days of the receipt of this request, as provided by the Code and the NRC's policies. In addition, please send the response to this request to me only, rather than to the NRC's Public Document Room. Please call me at the number above if there are questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Ophelia G. Williams