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6947 Columbia Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63130
Aug. 28, 2001

66 FR 39803

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Rules and Directives
Mr. Michael Lesar, Chief Branch
Rules and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

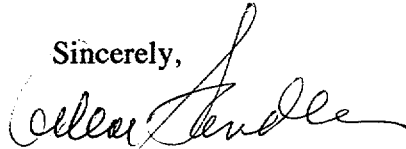
Dear Mr. Lesar:

I'd like to submit some brief comments on the application for the re-licensing of the University of Missouri-Columbia's Research Reactor (MURR).

What is unusual about MURR is the fact that it uses highly enriched uranium – over 93%. The uranium could be used to make nuclear weapons. The research facility as well as transport routes could be targeted by terrorists for this reason. Theodore Taylor, a former designer of nuclear weapons was quoted in an article in *The Columbia Tribune*, Dec. 2, 1986, p.71: "I think there's no defensible reason to have any amount of uranium in a highly enriched form at a university."

MURR is located less than a mile from the University of Missouri in one of the state's larger metropolitan areas. The facility failed several security inspections during the 1970's and had some significant personnel problems last year. The continuing use of weapons-grade uranium here represents a serious, unnecessary risk for Missourians.

Sincerely,


Arlene Sandler.

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Call = A. ADAMS (AXA)