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Office of the Dean of Engineering

December 8, 2003

Mr. Paul Longworth
Deputy Administrator for Defense Non-Nuclear Non-Proliferation
National Nuclear Security Administration
1000 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20585-1615

Dear Mr. Longworth:

This letter is written to thank you and the members of the Off-site Source Recovery Project for the efforts expended in removing three plutonium – beryllium sources from our reactor facility here in the School of Engineering at Manhattan College in Riverdale, NY.

On December 5th, we shipped our three Pu-Be sources to New Mexico. These sources were packed and prepared for shipment on August 21st, 2003 by a team from LANL composed of Joel Grimm, Shelby Leonard, Leonard Manzanares, Jim Matzke, and J. Andrew Tompkins. In all aspects of this project to date, Mr. Grimm and the members of the Off-site Source Recovery team have been a pleasure to work with and have been extraordinarily helpful.

We have been attempting to get these sources removed since the late 1990's, but with the relatively recent involvement of the Off-site Source Recovery personnel through your offices we finally have realized our goal.

What now remains for us to do in order to complete our decommissioning process is to have our reactor fuel removed. This material is low enriched uranium and has been used only a few times back in the mid-1990's. I understand that your office is also involved in making the arrangements for the removal of excess and unused reactor fuel from research reactor facilities such as what existed here at Manhattan College. I shall greatly appreciate any and all assistance from your office in helping us remove this last remaining material so we can complete our decommissioning process and use the space now committed to storing this material in a more efficient manner in our instructional programs here at the College. Again, I thank you for the assistance rendered by your office. If you wish to contact me, please phone me at 718-862-7281 or e-mail me at richard.heist@manhattan.edu.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Heist
Dean and Professor

Cc: Joel Grimm
Lee Leonard
Marvin Mendonca
Hillary Clinton
Robert Berlin