

July 21, 2015

Mr. Ralph Butler, Director
Research Reactor Center
University of Missouri-Columbia
Research Park
Columbia, MO 65211

SUBJECT: UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI AT COLUMBIA – ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE LIMIT FOR THE QUANTITY OF IODINE PROCESSED IN THE IODINE PROCESSING LABORATORY HOT CELLS FOR FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. R-103 FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI AT COLUMBIA RESEARCH REACTOR (TAC NO. ME1580)

Dear Mr. Butler:

As part of the license renewal process for the University of Missouri at Columbia, Research Reactor (MURR), the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff reviewed your response to our request for additional information dated January 28, 2015, describing the I-131 Processing Laboratory, Attachment No. 25 (although portions of this system are considered proprietary, a public version, where proprietary information has been redacted, is available on the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15034A474). NRC Headquarters inspectors reviewed the I-131 Processing Laboratory during a routine inspection conducted from March 30 through April 2, 2015, and documented their findings in NRC Inspection Report No. 50-186/2015-201 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15120A338). An Unresolved Item No. 50-186/2015-201-01 was issued to provide for additional NRC staff review. NRC Research and Test Reactor Licensing branch staff visited the facility on May 12-13, 2015, as part of their review of the renewal of the MURR facility operating license, and also reviewed the I-131 Processing Laboratory.

Following these additional reviews, the NRC staff conducted a telephone conversation on May 28, 2015, between MURR staff: Mr. Les Foyto, and Mr. John Fruits, and NRC staff: Dr. Mirela Gavrilas, Mr. Alexander Adams, Jr., Dr. Kevin Hsueh, Mr. John Adams, Mr. Johnny Eades, and Mr. Geoffrey Wertz. During this telephone call, the NRC staff communicated that it appears that additional safety review is necessary in order to determine if any engineered safety features, automated control systems, or additional technical specifications should be required during the operation of the I-131 Processing Laboratory to ensure that any accident scenario could not result in a dose consequence greater than the limits provided in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 20, "Standards for Protection Against Radiation." As a result, MURR staff decided to limit the iodine production in the hot cells to less than allowed by current MURR technical specification 3.7 and 10 CFR Part 20, Appendix B. Confirmation of this understanding was provided by an email from Mr. Les Foyto to Mr. Geoffrey Wertz (ADAMS Accession No. ML15154B803), dated May 28, 2015.

Please notify me immediately if your understanding differs from what is set forth above or if for any reason you intend to change, deviate from or not complete any of the actions set forth above, and advise me of the changes or deviations.

Be advised this letter does not preclude issuance of an order formalizing the above commitments or requiring other actions on the part of the licensee, nor does it preclude the NRC from taking enforcement action for violations of NRC requirements that may have prompted the issuance of this letter.

In accordance with 10 CFR, Section 2.390, "Public inspections, exemptions, requests for withholding," a copy of this letter, and your response, if you choose to provide one, will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room and in ADAMS, accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be made available to the public without redaction. If personal privacy or proprietary information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, then please provide a bracketed copy of your response that identifies the information that should be protected and a redacted copy of your response that deletes such information. If you request withholding of such material, you must specifically identify the portions of your response that you seek to have withheld, and provide in detail the bases for your claim of withholding (e.g., explain why the disclosure of information will create an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or provide the information required by 10 CFR 2.390(b) to support a request for withholding confidential commercial or financial information).

If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Mr. Geoffrey Wertz at (301) 415-0893, or by e-mail at Geoffrey.Wertz@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mirela Gavrilas, Deputy Director
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-186

cc: See next page

University of Missouri-Columbia

Docket No. 50-186

cc:

Mr. Les Foyto, Associate Director
Reactor and Facilities Operations
Research Reactor Center
University of Missouri - Columbia
Research Park
Columbia, MO 65211

Homeland Security Coordinator
Missouri Office of Homeland Security
P.O. Box 749
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Planner, Dept. of Health and Senior Services
Section for Environmental Public Health
930 Wildwood Drive, P.O. Box 570
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0570

Deputy Director for Policy
Department of Natural Resources
1101 Riverside Drive
Fourth Floor East
Jefferson City, MO 65101

A-95 Coordinator
Division of Planning
Office of Administration
P.O. Box 809, State Capitol Building
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Test, Research, and Training
Reactor Newsletter
University of Florida
202 Nuclear Sciences Center
Gainesville, FL 32611

R. Butler

- 2 -

Be advised this letter does not preclude issuance of an order formalizing the above commitments or requiring other actions on the part of the licensee, nor does it preclude the NRC from taking enforcement action for violations of NRC requirements that may have prompted the issuance of this letter.

In accordance with 10 CFR, Section 2.390, "Public inspections, exemptions, requests for withholding," a copy of this letter, and your response, if you choose to provide one, will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room and in ADAMS, accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be made available to the public without redaction. If personal privacy or proprietary information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, then please provide a bracketed copy of your response that identifies the information that should be protected and a redacted copy of your response that deletes such information. If you request withholding of such material, you must specifically identify the portions of your response that you seek to have withheld, and provide in detail the bases for your claim of withholding (e.g., explain why the disclosure of information will create an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or provide the information required by 10 CFR 2.390(b) to support a request for withholding confidential commercial or financial information).

If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Mr. Geoffrey Wertz at (301) 415-0893, or by e-mail at Geoffrey.Wertz@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mirela Gavrilas, Deputy Director
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-186

cc: See next page

DISTRIBUTION:

PUBLIC	PRLB R/F	RidsNrrDprPrta Resource
RidsNrrDprPrtb Resource	GWertz, NRR	JEads, NRR
RidsNrrDpr Resource	KHsueh, NRR	AAdams, NRR

ADAMS Accession Nos.: (Pkg.) ML15154B830; (Letter) ML15154B812; (E-mail) ML15154B803;

***concurring via email**

NRR-088

OFFICE	DPR/PRLB/PM*	DPR/LA	DPR/PRLB/BC	DPR/PRLB/PM	NRR
NAME	GWertz	ELee/NParker	(DHardesty for) AAdams	(AAdams for) GWertz	MGavrilas
DATE	06/08/2015	06/04/2015	06/11/2015	06/12/2015	07/21/2015

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY