

March 13, 1997

U.S. Department of Health and
Human Services
Public Health Service
National Institute of Environmental
Health Sciences
ATTN: Philip E. Hamrick, Ph.D.
Radiation Safety Officer
P. O. Box 12233
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

SUBJECT: RELEASE OF BUILDINGS 5 AND 7 FOR UNRESTRICTED USE

Dear Dr. Hamrick:

As described in NRC Inspection Report No. 32-12358-01/97-01, we concluded based upon our confirmatory survey of January 14-17, 1997, that the buildings at the North Campus facility where the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences used licensed materials could not be released for unrestricted use. You have since resurveyed Buildings 5 and 7 as described in your letter dated March 12, 1997, and it appears your instrumentation and procedures enabled you to adequately detect and measure levels of contamination below the limits for release of these facilities for unrestricted use. Your reported survey results indicate that the levels of residual contamination that may remain from licensed activities are below the release limits, and that Buildings 5 and 7 are suitable for release for unrestricted use.

As noted in our letter of February 27, 1997, Mr. Bryan Parker, a Region II inspector, examined your survey equipment, evaluated your survey procedures and inspected Buildings 9A and 10. Mr. Parker confirmed the information included in your February 24 and 26 letters and concluded that your survey instruments and procedures were adequate to enable you to detect and measure contamination below the required limits. Based upon the additional survey information included in your March 12, 1997 letter and Mr. Parker's earlier review of your survey equipment, procedures and facilities, we have determined that Buildings 5 and 7 may be released for unrestricted use.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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U.S. Department of Health and
Human Services

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Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact us.

Sincerely,

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John P. Potter, Chief
Materials Licensing/Inspection Branch 2
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety


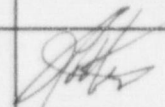
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cc: State of North Carolina

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