

UNIVERSITY *of* MISSOURI

RESEARCH REACTOR CENTER

April 2, 2021

ATTN: Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

REFERENCE: Docket Number No. 50-186
University of Missouri-Columbia Research Reactor
Renewed Facility Operating License No. R-103

SUBJECT: Federal Funding for the Conversion of the University of Missouri-Columbia
Research Reactor from Highly-Enriched Uranium Fuel to Low-Enriched Uranium
Fuel

Enclosed is a copy of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Material Management and Minimization, letter stating Federal funding under the DOE's University Research Reactor Infrastructure Program for the conversion of the University of Missouri-Columbia Research Reactor (MURR) from highly-enriched uranium (HEU) to low-enriched uranium (LEU) fuel will not be available during fiscal year 2021.

Sincerely,



Bruce A. Meffert
Reactor Manager

ENDORSEMENT:
Reviewed and Approved



J. David Robertson, PhD
Reactor Facility Director

cc: Reactor Advisory Committee
Reactor Safety Subcommittee
Dr. Thomas Spencer, Interim Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development
Mr. Geoffrey Wertz, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mr. Craig Bassett, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Enclosure:

1. DOE Letter to MURR Regarding Conversion Funding, dated April 1, 2021





Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585



April 1, 2021

Dr. J. David Robertson
University of Missouri - Columbia
Research Reactor
Facility Columbia, MO 65211

Dear Dr. Robertson:

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.64, *Limitations on the Use of Highly Enriched Uranium in Domestic Non-Power Reactors*, the University of Missouri's Research Reactor (MURR) is required to send a letter annually to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission documenting if Federal funds are available to convert to low-enriched uranium (LEU) fuel.

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.64, you are hereby notified that Department of Energy funding will not be available in fiscal year 2021 to complete the conversion of MURR to LEU fuel. While significant funds are being invested to qualify a new LEU fuel that will meet MURR's performance requirements and support the conversion of MURR, an acceptable LEU fuel is not currently available.

You will be notified in the event these circumstances change. If you have any questions, please contact me at my telework number, (202) 751-2377.

Sincerely,

Brian Waud
Director, Reactor Conversion Program
Office of Material Management & Minimization
Office of Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation

cc: Christopher Landers, NA-231
Vic Pearson, DOE-ID
Kenny Osborne, DOE-HQ, NE-51