

May 2, 2001

EA-00-277

Dr. Richard L. Wallace, Chancellor
University of Missouri-Columbia
105 Jesse Hall
Columbia, MO 65211

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL TIME TO SUBMIT RESPONSE, NRC
CONCERNS ABOUT CHILLING EFFECT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF
MISSOURI-COLUMBIA RESEARCH REACTOR (OFFICE OF
INVESTIGATIONS REPORT NO. 4-2000-029)

Dear Dr. Wallace:

I am responding to your letter of April 16, 2001, which requested additional time to reply to our letter of March 5, 2001, directing you to submit information within 60 days about a chilling effect at the University of Missouri-Columbia Research Reactor. Your letter states that you have requested and received a copy of the Office of Investigations (OI) report in this matter and have requested under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) the OI report exhibits and attachments. You requested that your response to NRC be due 30 days after receipt of the results of the FOIA request.

Upon inquiry with the NRC FIOA staff, we could not identify a FOIA request from the University of Missouri-Columbia. This was discussed with Dr. Edward Deutsch, who in a letter to NRC dated April 19, 2001, identified the FOIA requester as Ophelia Williams of J.R.H. Associates. Subsequent to the letter from Dr. Deutsch, Mr. Thomas C. Poindexter of Winston & Strawn on April 23, 2001, requested on the behalf of the University of Missouri-Columbia Research Reactor a copy of the OI report and exhibits. Our understanding is that the request from Mr. Poindexter will supercede the request of J.R.H. Associates.

Although we believe that your FOIA request was not made in a timely manner, to allow the university to provide the NRC with a thorough and complete response to our questions, we are extending the due date of your reply to 30 days after the date of the NRC FOIA response to Mr. Poindexter. If you have any questions concerning this extension of time to reply, please contact Mr. Ledyard B. Marsh at 301-415-1168 or Mr. Alexander Adams at 301-415-1127.

Sincerely,

/RA by Frank Gillespie Acting For/

David B. Matthews, Director
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-186

cc: Please see next page

University of Missouri-Columbia

Docket No. 50-186

cc:

University of Missouri
Associate Director
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Columbia, MO 65201

A-95 Coordinator
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P.O. Box 809, State Capitol Building
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Mr. Ron Kucera, Director
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and Special Projects
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Jefferson City, MO 65102

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