

November 14, 2001

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

SUBJECT: UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-COLUMBIA RESEARCH REACTOR -
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT RE: AMENDMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION
PERMIT RECAPTURE (TAC NO. MB0850)

Dear Mr. Butler:

On December 27, 2000, as supplemented by letters dated April 12 and June 6, 2001, the University of Missouri-Columbia applied for a license amendment to revise Amended Facility License No. R-103 to change the license expiration date from November 21, 2001, to October 11, 2006, to recapture the construction time between the issuance date of Construction Permit No. CPRR-68 (November 21, 1961) and issuance of Facility Operating License No. R-103 (October 11, 1966) to allow a 40-year operating license term. The license amendment was issued by NRC on October 19, 2001.

The State of Missouri Department of Natural Resources requested that the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the amendment be circulated for public comment. In light of the request, the NRC determined to exercise its discretion to circulate the EA for a 30-day public comment period and on August 1, 2001, the Notice of "Request for Public Comment, Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" appeared in the *Federal Register* (66 FR 39803). During the comment period, the staff received 12 comment letters.

Please find enclosed a "Discussion of Comments Received on the Environmental Assessment for the University of Missouri-Columbia Construction Permit Recapture Amendment." This document contains a discussion of the disposition of comments received that were relevant to the Environmental Assessment.

Please also find enclosed a "Discussion of Operational Comments - University of Missouri-Columbia Construction Permit Recapture Amendment." This document contains a discussion of the disposition of comments related to the operation of the reactor and other issues not related to the Environmental Assessment or the license amendment request.

If you have any questions please contact me at 301-415-1127.

Sincerely,
/RA/

Alexander Adams, Jr., Senior Project Manager
Operational Experience and
Non-Power Reactors Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-186
Enclosures: As stated

cc w/o enclosures: Please see next page

University of Missouri-Columbia

Docket No. 50-186

cc:

University of Missouri
Associate Director
Research Reactor Facility
Columbia, MO 65201

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

Mr. Ron Kucera, Director
Intergovernmental Cooperation
and Special Projects
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

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TEMPLATE #: NRR-056

*Please see previous concurrence

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