

March 7, 2003

Scott Azzolini
Surety Underwriting Manager
Surety Underwriting Department
Frontier Insurance Company in Rehabilitation
PO Box 8000
Rock Hill NY 12775-9986

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF SURETY BOND #85715 FOR BIGELOW
LABORATORY OF OCEAN SCIENCES

Dear Mr. Azzolini:

In a letter dated January 2, 2003, you requested that the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) release surety bond #85715. My staff has determined that Bigelow Laboratory of Ocean Sciences (Bigelow) has not been an NRC licensee since 1991, but that Bigelow does hold a radioactive materials license from the state of Maine. The Maine Radiation Control Program has verified that the referenced bond was replaced, effective April 25, 2002, with a bond issued by Capital Indemnity Corporation, and that the replacement bond meets Maine requirements for financial assurance.

Because Bigelow is no longer an NRC licensee, and because Bigelow has provided the required financial assurance to the state of Maine independent of Surety Bond #85715, I agree to release this bond effective April 25, 2002. Enclosed is a signed release. If you have further questions regarding this matter please contact Shelly Cole at (301) 415-2549 or SDC1@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Claudia M. Craig, Acting Chief
Decommissioning Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
And Safeguards

Enclosure: Signed Release

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