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June 16, 2003

50-186

Alexander Adams
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Request for Predecisional Enforcement Conference Re EA-02-256

Dear Mr. Adams:

As counsel for the University of Missouri ("MU") and the University of Missouri Research Reactor ("MURR"), this letter is provided on behalf of MURR/MU to request a predecisional enforcement conference ("PEC") regarding NRC enforcement action EA-02-256 (June 4, 2003). That action alleges an apparent violation of NRC regulation 10 C.F.R. § 50.7.

Please be advised, however, that while MURR/MU has accepted your offer of a PEC, we do not believe it is reasonable to have the conference until certain key documents, referenced by the NRC in its June 4, 2003, letter have been reviewed in detail. Furthermore, the conference will not be possible until after certain MURR personnel and MU senior officials have had an opportunity to review their respective Office of Investigations ("OI") transcripts. As such, MURR/MU is not prepared at this time to propose a date for the requested enforcement conference. We estimate that the conference could be held approximately 45 days after receipt of all of the documents requested in two Freedom of Information Act requests, dated June 11 and 16, 2003, respectively, and MURR/MU personnel's review of transcripts of interviews generated in connection with related OI Report 4-2001-054.

This letter has been concurred with by MURR/MU and as such represents its position on this matter. Also, the essence of this letter has been provided to the MURR NRC

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Project Manager, Alexander Adams. We look forward to completing the above-described actions and thereafter conducting the requested PEC in an expeditious manner. Please contact me at your convenience if I can provide any further information on this matter.

Sincerely,



for Thomas C. Poindexter
Counsel for the University of Missouri

cc: Dr. E. Floyd (University of Missouri)