Dr. Budhi Sagar
Center for Nuclear Waste
Regulatory Analyses
Building 189/A232
6220 Culebra Road
San Antonio, TX 78228-0510

March 19, 1997

SUBJECT: EXCHANGE OF DR. KIMBERLY A. GRUSS BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION AND THE CENTER FOR NUCLEAR WASTE REGULATORY ANALYSES

Dear Dr. Sagar:

This letter expresses the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's desire to have Dr. Kimberly A. Gruss participate in a rotational assignment at the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (CNWRA) to conduct experiments to measure the repassivation potential and localized corrosion rates of nickel-based alloys. This assignment has been tentatively scheduled for April 7 through May 30, 1997. This request is made in accordance with the CNWRA Administrative Procedure AP-008 entitled: "Exchanges of Personnel Between the CNWRA and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission." The enclosure contains all of the material required by Section 5.2 of AP-008.

NRC believes the proposed personnel exchange will greatly benefit Dr. Gruss, the CNWRA, and NRC. It is NRC's understanding that the subject of Dr. Gruss' participation in the proposed exchange has been discussed and approved in principle in several meetings involving cognizant CNWRA and NRC management. Therefore, your approval of this exchange is requested. If agreed, please sign and date, as indicated below, and return the original signed copy of this letter to me.

Sincerely,

/S/

Shirley L. Fortuna, Program Manager
Program Management, Policy Development
and Analysis Staff
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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Enclosure:
As stated

Approved: ORIGINAL SIGNED BY Wesley C. Patrick 3/19/97
FOR: Dr. Budhi Sagar (Date)

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DATE	3/17/97	3/17/97	3/17/97	3/18/97	3/19/97

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Shirley Fortuna
Program Manager
PMDA/NMSS

Enclosure: As stated

Approved: _____ _____
Dr. Buhdi Sagar (Date)

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DATE	3/17/97	3/17/97	3/17/97	3/ /97	3/ /97

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ACNW: YES ___ NO ✓
IG : YES ___ NO ✓
LSS : YES ___ NO ✓

Delete file after distribution: Yes ✓ No ___

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 19, 1997

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Shirley L. Fortuna

Shirley L. Fortuna, Program Manager
Program Management, Policy Development and
and Analysis Staff
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure:
As stated

Approved: _____ 3/19/97
Dr. Budhi Sagar (Date)

ENCLOSURE

ROTATIONAL ASSIGNMENT CONTRACT

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION:

Kimberly Ann Gruss
Mail Stop T7-C14
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555
(301) 415-6680

ASSIGNMENT LOCATION:

Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses
Southwest Research Institute
6220 Culebra Road
San Antonio, TX 78228-0510

HOST SUPERVISOR:

Gustavo Cragnolino, Principal Scientist
CNWRA
6220 Culebra Road
San Antonio, TX 78228-0510

ASSIGNMENT PERIOD:

April 7, 1997 to May 30, 1997

OVERVIEW OF PLANNED ACTIVITIES:

The primary activity of this rotational assignment will be to work with CNWRA staff in its ongoing corrosion research activities. Emphasis will be placed on performing experiments to measure the repassivation potential and localized corrosion rates of nickel-based alloys. If time permits, the galvanic corrosion experiments may also be conducted to verify the Center's current modeling efforts.

NMSS COMMITMENTS:

Electrochemical Chemical Techniques in Corrosion Engineering Course on June 1 through June 6, 1997 in Charlottesville, VA.

TRAINING:

Not applicable.

ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL FISCAL AND PROGRAMMATIC IMPACTS FROM THE EXCHANGE:

The cost of the exchange in terms of travel and per diem is estimated to be about $10,000. There are no expected programmatic impacts of this exchange.

DETAILS OF PROGRAM PLAN:

The work performed during this rotational assignment will be in the area of materials degradation and will address the Key Technical Uncertainties (KTUs) "Prediction of Environmental Effects on the Waste Package and the EBS" and "Extrapolation of Short-Term Laboratory and Prototype Test Results to Predict Long-Term Performance of Waste Packages and EBS." These KTUs are considered a subset of the performance assessment KTU "Conceptual Model Representation of the Natural and Engineered Systems."

Dr. Gruss will work closely with Dr. G. Cragnolino and Mr. D. Dunn to measure the repassivation potential and localized corrosion rates of other nickel-based alloys, e.g., alloys 625, and C-22. If time permits, Dr. Gruss may also contribute to the galvanic corrosion experiments to verify current modeling efforts. The results from this work would be implemented in the EBSPAC computer code which will be used in performance assessment calculations for Yucca Mountain.

Statement of Professional Qualifications

Kimberly Ann Gruss

The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards

I am a General Engineer in the Engineering and Material Section of the Engineering and Geosciences Branch, Division of Waste Management.

I received my Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering degree in 1989 from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts. In 1992, I received my Master of Nuclear Engineering degree from North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC, and in May 1997, I will have officially graduated with a Ph.D. degree in materials science and engineering from North Carolina State University. The emphasis of my research was on the experimentation of nuclear materials, e.g., stress relaxation of zirconium alloys, adhesion of ceramic coatings to nickel- and titanium-based alloys.

I have written and am in the process of completing peer-reviewed journal articles in the field of materials engineering and coating technologies, and I have presented papers at the International Radioactive Waste Management and Materials Research Society conferences.

I currently hold memberships in the American Society of Metals, the Materials Research Society, and the American Nuclear Society.