

November 7, 2005

Mr. Jose B. Noel Irizarry
Administrative Manager
Amersham Acquisition Corporation
WA-15 Marginal Los Angeles
Carolina, PR 00979

Dear Mr. Irizarry:

This is in response to your October 5, 2005, letter requesting fee relief from the fiscal year (FY) 2005 fees. You indicate in your letter that Amersham Acquisition Corporation (formerly Syncor Caribe) notified the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of its intent to cease operation on or about December 31, 2004. For the reasons described below, I am granting an extension of time to file for license termination resulting in a 50 percent prorated annual fee for FY 2005.

On December 23, 2004, Amersham Acquisition Corporation sent a letter to the NRC with its intent to cease operations on or about December 31, 2004. The letter also indicated that the primary site would undergo a decommissioning process on or about January 30, 2005, and a subsequent request to remove this site, along with a decommissioning report, would be forwarded to NRC's Region I office.

On January 27, 2005, an NRC inspector from our Region I office performed a routine, announced inspection of the facility. His inspection report indicated that the facility ceased operations on December 17, 2004, and that the licensee planned to decommission during the last two weeks in February 2005, and would request termination shortly thereafter.

On April 20, 2005, Richard A. Hughes, corporate Radiation Safety Officer of GE Healthcare (who had purchased Amersham Acquisition Corporation), sent a letter to the NRC stating the intent to permanently cease operations immediately or on the expiration date (i.e., April 30, 2005). In response, the NRC's Region I office issued a termination amendment to license no. 52-16345-02MD on June 6, 2005.

The NRC's 10 CFR Part 171 annual fee regulations provide that the annual fee is avoided in those cases where the licensee files for termination before October 1 of the fiscal year, and also provides for a proration for terminations filed between October 1 and March 31 of the fiscal year. Based on your termination date, you would be subject to the full FY 2005 annual fee in accordance with the provisions of the NRC's regulations. However, in light of the circumstances surrounding your efforts, I am granting an extension of time to file for license termination to April 30, 2005, resulting in a 50 percent prorated annual fee for FY 2005. A new invoice (AM3452-05) is enclosed.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. William Blaney of my staff at 301-415-5092.

Sincerely,

/RA/
Jesse L. Funches
Chief Financial Officer

Enclosure: Revised invoice AM3452-05

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Chief Financial Officer

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Distribution:

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DFM-5-167 (Closes) OCFO 2005-486 (Closes)

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