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February 17, 2006

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Attention: Dr. Thomas K. Thompson
Senior Health Physicist
Commercial and R&D Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
Mail Control No. 138224
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

0300 8177

**SUBJECT: REPLY TO YOUR LETTER OF 1/30/06 PERTAINING TO
TERMINATION OF LICENSE No. 45-14863-01**

Dear Dr. Thompson:

Senior Manager Letter and Signature. As requested, a letter from Dr. James Perkins, President of Blue Ridge Community College, affirming the institution's support of the termination of the Materials License No. 45-14863-01, is attached.

Unsealed Samples. The unsealed samples of Cobalt 60, Carbon 14, and Lead 210 which according to an earlier license were to be stored from November 15, 1982 to October 20, 1987 were never opened or used in any applications. Incidentally, these low-level liquid samples came into my possession in 1965 when I took an NSF supported course in radiation biology at Shorter College, Rome GA. They were never opened. At some time during the 1980s, the hazardous materials disposal company, which was under contract to remove chemical and environmental hazardous materials, accepted those unopened vials and transported them off campus.

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Sealed Sources. The sealed sources, which are all license-exempt quantities, are still on hand and will continue to be used to calibrate a gamma ray spectrometer. The radioactive material (Co-60, Cs-137, Ba-133, Na-22, etc.) is sealed by epoxy into blind holes drilled into solid plastic discs which are permanently labeled. It has never been suggested that these sources of 1 or 5 microCuries needed to be wipe tested. Sources of this construction and activity are available for unrestricted purchase from a number of vendors that sell to secondary schools and colleges, including Sargent-Welch and American Scientific. Several stainless steel "needles" with 0.9 microCuries of Radium-226 also are on hand which were supplied by Leybold for use as alpha particle sources in Leybold cloud chambers.

Facility and Surroundings. The source mentioned in the license whose termination is requested was a sealed Am-Be Neutron Source containing one Curie of Am-241. The paraffin-filled howitzer in which the neutron source was secured was never located outside of Room E111 which serves as a dedicated physics classroom and laboratory for the teaching of multiple sections of General College Physics, PHY 201-202. Since the 1970s, I have been the only instructor to use the room. The room has approximately 894 square feet. Other rooms of the same one-story building are general classrooms, administrative offices, a faculty lounge, etc. The "Physics Laboratory" is, thus, one ordinary room in a general purpose building. Beyond the campus of this rural community college is farm land with scattered commercial businesses and residences along the same highway, Rt. 11. Interstate 81 is beside the campus. The village of Weyers Cave is within two miles by road. The college is located twenty miles or less roughly equidistant from Harrisonburg, Staunton, and Waynesboro. The site has been visited (unannounced) each time a license renewal has been requested by various personnel of the NRC who each checked the room with survey instruments. No radiation, other than the sources themselves, was ever noted.

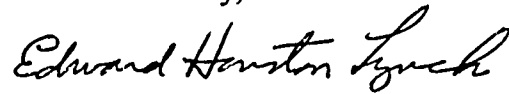
In addition to the prescribed semi-annual wipe testing which was certified by Calibration Technology, a division of Radiation Safety & Control Services, Inc., Stratham, NH, the source encapsulation was wipe tested just prior to its removal from Blue Ridge Community College, as specified by the Off-Site Recovery Project. No evidence of contamination was found. After the neutron source was in the shipping cask, the howitzer was wiped by the technician from Radiation Service Organization, Inc., of Laurel, MD. The report of analysis of the three wipes stated: "Since the analysis results did not identify any radioactive contamination, it indicated that the empty source holder is free from removable contamination." (A copy of this report was attached to the NRC Form 314).

SUMMARY

The licensed Am-Be Neutron Source has been properly removed from this site. There is no detectable contamination of the howitzer in which it resided and from which it was removed. Vials containing several low-level radioactive liquids were never opened and have not been on the site for nearly a quarter of a century. The several license-exempt sealed sources at the site have obvious mechanical integrity. The site has never experienced radioactive contamination.

In light of this information, I hope you will concur that additional site testing procedures are unwarranted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward Houston Lynch".

Edward Houston Lynch

Associate Professor of Physics



February 13, 2006

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to inform you that Blue Ridge Community College located in Weyers Cave, Virginia wishes to terminate its NRC License No. 45-14863-01.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James R. Perkins".

James R. Perkins
President

JRP/phs