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REGION I

Merck & Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 4
West Point, PA 19486-0004

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May 30, 2006

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Mr. James Dwyer
Nuclear Materials Safety Branch
Region I
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

Dear Mr. Dwyer:

Merck & Co., Inc. would like to amend Radioactive Materials License No. 37-01531-07 to allow radioactive waste from our Rahway site (NRC License No. 29-00117-06) to be transported to the West Point site and incinerated. Merck & Co., Inc. would like to have the option to capture the potential cost savings of not operating, maintaining, and permitting the incinerator at the Rahway site when the incinerator units at West Point can provide the same service.

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All incinerator operations will be carried out consistently with Conditions 29 & 30 of NRC License No. 37-01531-07, the incinerator program described in application dated May 25, 2005, and all state and local permits for the operation of the incinerators at West Point. The concentration of radionuclides released will be evaluated by sampling and analysis, or calculated using the conservative assumption that all activity charged to the incinerator is released in the air effluent. Calculations of concentrations of radioactive material in the effluent air are performed for all radionuclides incinerated using the actual amounts of radioactivity incinerated or released. Our incinerator operations will be maintained in full compliance with the constraint rule as described in 10 CFR 20.1101(d) such that no member of the general public will receive a dose exceeding 10 millirem in a year.

All ash generated as a result of incinerating radioactive material will be handled in accordance with Condition 30 of License No. 37-01531-07

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this amendment request, please contact John Miller at (215) 652-7926.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Greg Reinhard".

Greg Reinhard, DVM
Executive Director – Global Research Safety & Compliance

(Separated out of 138949 on 7/5/06

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NMSS/RGNI MATERIALS-002