UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4352

NOV 12 2008

Minh Hoak
Radiation Safety Officer
Hercules, Inc.
Aqualon Division
11083 Highway D
Louisana, MO 63353

Dear Mr. Hoak:

This refers to your facsimile letter dated October 30, 2008, notifying us of the definitive merger agreement involving an indirect transfer of control of NRC License No. 24-03060-01, issued to Hercules, Inc. As described in the letter referenced above, a subsidiary of Ashland will merge with and into Hercules, resulting in Hercules becoming a wholly owned subsidiary of Ashland and Ashland will become the sole shareholder of Hercules. Further, we understand that Hercules will continue to do business under its operating name as a subsidiary of Ashland, with no change in the operating name of the licensed facility or in the personnel obligated to ensure the safe use of the licensed material (sealed sources) authorized by the subject NRC license. Based on the information you provided, addressing information needed for change of control, as described in Appendix C of NUREG - 1556 Volume 4, and signed by Thomas H. Strang, Vice President, Hercules Incorporated, we have no objection to the planned change of ownership/control as described.

Please note that you will need to notify us promptly, in writing, after the transaction has been finalized and include a copy of some formal documentation confirming completion of transaction. With this information, we can issue an amendment to the subject NRC license (tying down the referenced documents) to reflect the change of ownership and related commitments made. If this proposed sale has not been consummated within 30 day of the date of this letter, please notify us in writing so that we may void this amendment request.

If you have any questions or require clarification on any of the information stated above, you may contact us at (630) 829-9829.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be available electronically in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). The NRC's document system is accessible from the NRC Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

Loren J. Hueter
Materials Licensing Branch

License No. 24-03060-01
Docket No. 030-05086
cc Thomas H. Strang, Vice President