



# Research Reactor Center

University of Missouri-Columbia

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March 20, 2009

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Mail Stop P1-37  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

REFERENCE: Docket Number 50-186  
University of Missouri - Columbia Research Reactor  
Amended Facility License R-103

SUBJECT: Federal Funding for the Conversion of the University of Missouri - Columbia  
Research Reactor from Highly-Enriched Uranium Fuel to Low-Enriched  
Uranium Fuel

Enclosed is a copy of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) letter stating Federal funding under the DOE's University Research Reactor Infrastructure Program for the conversion of the University of Missouri - Columbia Research Reactor (MURR) from highly-enriched uranium (HEU) fuel to low-enriched uranium (LEU) fuel will not be available during fiscal year 2010.

Sincerely,

Les P. Foyto  
Reactor Manager

ENDORSEMENT:  
Reviewed and Approved

Ralph A. Butler, P.E.  
Director

Enclosure

xc: Mr. Alexander Adams, Jr., U.S. NRC  
Mr. Craig Bassett, U.S. NRC

A020  
LIRR



## Department of Energy

Idaho Operations Office  
1955 Fremont Avenue  
Idaho Falls, ID 83401

March 6, 2009

Mr. Ralph Butler  
University of Missouri – Columbia  
Research Reactor Facility  
Columbia, MO 65211

SUBJECT: Notification that No Federal Funding will be Available in Fiscal Year 2009 to Support the University of Missouri Research Reactor Conversion from Highly-Enriched Uranium Fuel to Low-Enriched Uranium (IS-09-010)

Dear Mr. Butler:

The University of Missouri's Research Reactor (MURR) applied for a unique purpose exemption as defined in 10 CFR Part 50.2. This application is still under review by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). In accordance with 10 CFR Part 50.64, *Limitations on the Use of Highly Enriched Uranium in Domestic Non-Power Reactors*, MURR is annually required to send a letter to the NRC documenting if Federal funds are available to convert to low-enriched uranium (LEU) fuel.

You are hereby notified that, although DOE funding is being made available for conducting feasibility studies, the fact that MURR's current compact core cannot be converted to LEU fuel with any of the currently approved fuel loading densities precludes DOE from providing Federal funding for the conversion to LEU fuel during fiscal year 2009.

You will be notified in the event these circumstances change. If you have any questions, please contact me on (208) 526-6876.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Wade".

James R. Wade, Manager  
Research Reactor Infrastructure Program  
Office of Nuclear Energy

cc: Parrish A. Staples, NA-212