

July 1, 2009

LICENSEE: University of Missouri – Columbia
FACILITY: University of Missouri – Columbia Research Reactor
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MAY 21, 2009, CATEGORY 1 PUBLIC MEETING
BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI AT COLUMBIA
RESEARCH REACTOR AND THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION STAFF

On May, 21, 2009, a public meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff and representatives of the University of Missouri at Columbia (MURR) at NRC Headquarters, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss MURR's plans for the production of Molybdenum-99 (Mo-99). MURR is considering entering the domestic Mo-99 market.

On January 12, 2009, MURR submitted a letter of intent to the NRC to pursue a project whose objective is to process low-enriched uranium (LEU) targets in order to supply up to 50 percent of U.S. demand for Mo-99. A process building to separate the Mo-99 from targets irradiated in the reactor is planned to be located adjacent to the MURR facility.

The licensee discussed the general attributes of Mo-99, their production plans, reasons they are pursuing the project, general process for producing Mo-99, goals of the project, timelines and the licensing approach they are considering.

The majority of the discussion involved the potential licensing approach. The proposed schedule for the project has an application for license submitted to NRC in June 2010, construction and NRC license issuance in September 2011 and facility being operational in December of 2011.

The licensee discussed two potential licensing approaches. The first, which is MURR's preference, would result in an amendment to their existing Part 50 utilization facility license to add the new Mo-99 process facility to the existing license. A question that was discussed with this approach is if a construction permit would be required to build the new Mo-99 processing facility. The regulations in 10 CFR 50.92(a) require a construction permit if an application involves the material alteration of a licensed facility. This issuance of an additional construction permit for an existing research reactor is very unusual. The need to issue a construction permit before construction could start on the Mo-99 processing facility would make MURR's aggressive schedule difficult to meet.

The second approach is the issuance of a specific 10 CFR Part 70 license. The licensee noted that if NRC determined that an environmental impact statement (EIS) was needed for the licensing activity, the EIS would need to be issued before construction could start. The need to issue an EIS would make MURR's schedule difficult to meet.

The NRC staff discussed a potential licensing path not identified by MURR, that the Mo-99 processing facility would be a production facility as defined in 10 CFR 50.2. The licensee was aware of the definition, but had not fully researched the applicability of the definition to their project. The NRC staff suggested that the licensee consider the definition of production facility in their planning as they move forward.

It was agreed that MURR would continue to develop their preferred licensing path and would formally submit for NRC comment their path forward with justification.

A list of meeting attendees is given in Attachment 1 and Attachment 2 is the presentation slides used by MURR at the meeting.

Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-1127, or by electronic mail at Alexander.Adams@nrc.gov.

/RA/

Alexander Adams Jr., Senior Project Manager
Research and Test Reactors Branch A
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachments:

1. List of Attendees
2. MURR slides

cc w/ atts: See next page

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/RA/

Alexander Adams Jr., Senior Project Manager
Research and Test Reactors Branch A
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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OFFICE	PRTA:PM	PRTA:LA	PRTA:BC
NAME	AAdams aa	G. Lappert gkl	K. Brock kmb
DATE	6/30/2009	06/25/2009	7/1/2009

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University of Missouri Research Reactor
Presentation Slides

LIST OF MEETING ATTENDEES

MAY 21, 2009, CATEGORY 1 PUBLIC MEETING

WITH UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - COLUMBIA

NRC

K. Brock, NRR
A. Adams, NRR
B. Hill, NMSS
J. Hull, OGC
B. Mizuno, OGC
S. Uttal, OGC
M. Voth, NRR
D. Howe, FSME
T. Harris, NSIR
D. Brown, FSME

University of Missouri (including contractors)

K. Mescher
M. Laggart
D. Schlman
R. Butler
R. McGoey
W. Meyer

Public

P. Moore
C. Harney
E. Lyman
E. Hiruo

University of Missouri-Columbia

Docket No. 50-186

cc:

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