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State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Environmental Regulation
Office of Permit Coordination and Environmental Review
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JON S. CORZINE
Governor

MARK N. MAURIELLO
Acting Commissioner

September 9, 2009

Betsy Ullrich
Senior Health Physicist
Commercial and R&D Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, Region 1
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

29-30152-01
03033542

RE: Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for License Amendment - Ligand Pharmaceuticals Cranbury, Middlesex County

Dear Ms. Ullrich,

The Office of Permit Coordination and Environmental Review of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has completed its review of the Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for License Amendment to Byproduct Nuclear Materials License NO. 29-30152-01, For Unrestricted Release of the Ligand Pharmaceuticals Facility in Cranbury, New Jersey. We offer the following comments for your consideration.

Staff of the Radiological Assessment and Decommissioning Section (RADS) of the Bureau of Environmental Radiation (BER) performed a radiological review of the following US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) document for Ligand Pharmaceuticals:

- Nuclear Regulatory Commission Docket NO. 030-33542 Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for License Amendment to Byproduct Nuclear Materials License NO. 29-30152-01, for Unrestricted Release of the Ligand Pharmaceuticals Facility in Cranbury, New Jersey

The BER agrees with the NRC's Finding of No Significant Impact for the proposed action to approve the licensee's amendment request to release the East Wing for unrestricted use.

The results of the fixed and removable contamination surveys indicate levels which comply with the Department's remediation criteria of 15 mrem/y (N.J.A.C. 7: 28-12.18(a)).

If there are any questions concerning the comments above, please contact Ed Truskowski at (609) 984-5542.

Thank you for giving the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection the opportunity to comment on the EA and FONSI.

Sincerely,



Brian P. Quinn
Principal Environmental Specialist
Office of Permit Coordination
and Environmental Review

Cc: Patricia Gardner, NJDEP