



ARMED FORCES RADIOBIOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
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October 19, 2010

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: ARMED FORCES RADIOBIOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE –  
APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION, RE: RESPONSE TO REQUEST  
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DATED JULY 19, 2010 (TAC NO. ME1587)

Sir:

By letter dated September 27, 2010, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission requested additional information regarding our request for extension until December 31, 2011 to respond to RAIs which require outside technical assistance.

Upon consideration by AFRRRI staff of RAIs received from NRC, questions 4,8,9,12, and 13 will require additional time and resources to provide comprehensive answers. For these questions, an extension until January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011 is requested.

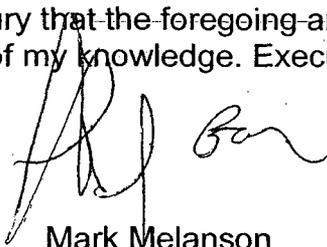
For the three questions requiring outside assistance, 3, 5, and 6, the request for extension until 31 December 2011 is predicated on the time required to contract a vendor to provide mathematical modeling services that are not available at AFRRRI. Question 3 refers to a proprietary GA code. We are currently operating under a continuing resolution and cannot justify this as a national emergency; therefore resources cannot be allocated until Congress approves the DoD budget (estimated January 2011). Once the budget is allocated to DoD, the budget still has to filter down to the University. Once the FY 2011 budget is in place, the contracting process can commence (typically 3-6 months for this size contract), plus the time it will take the selected vendor to perform the work requested of them. The contracting process requires a formal statement of work, then an advertising period, followed by a period of time for prospective vendors to prepare and submit formal proposals. Once proposals are received, a panel must convene to evaluate the proposals and select the best value for the Federal Government. When the contracting process is complete, a package is prepared for legal to review. Only then can a contract be let. The typical period of performance for a contract is 1 year, but in this case I will try to shorten the time frame, but the vendor can insist on a sufficient amount of time to complete the work.

The time line is in no way tied to AFRRRI's willingness to provide resources.

Also promising but not certain at this point, I have requested assistance from Jim Wade at DOE with these questions. Since DOE already has a contract in place, they may be able to provide assistance within a shorter time frame. If we are able to get DOE's assistance, the timeline will likely be shortened.

If you need further information, please contact Mr. Stephen Miller at 301-295-1290 or millers@afri.usuhs.mil.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing and all enclosed information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Executed on October 19, 2010.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Melanson', is written over the printed name and title.

Mark Melanson  
COL, MS, USA  
Director