

Mr. George Hamawy  
Columbia University  
419 West 119<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10027

Dear Mr. Hamawy:

This letter is in reference to a petition for rulemaking (PRM) that you submitted to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on September 15, 2011. Your petition, which requested that the NRC initiate a rulemaking to require installation of radiation alarms for rooms housing neutron sources was docketed under § 2.802 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, "Petition for rulemaking," and assigned Docket Number PRM-73-15.

A notice of receipt and request for comment was published in the *Federal Register* on December 7, 2011 (76 FR 76327). The comment period closed on February 21, 2012. Four comment letters were received.

The NRC has considered the petition, your supporting rationale, and the comments it received on the petition. For the reasons provided in the enclosed *Federal Register* notice, the Commission has denied your petition under the provisions of 10 CFR §2.803, because the NRC has determined that current requirements provide reasonable assurance that the common defense and security and public health and safety are adequately protected.

The NRC appreciates your views and encourages public feedback through any of our NRC processes.

The *Federal Register* notice denying the petition is being transmitted to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Annette Vietti-Cook  
Secretary of the Commission

Enclosure:  
*Federal Register* notice

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