



**INDIANA UNIVERSITY**  
OFFICE OF RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION  
RADIATION SAFETY - INDIANAPOLIS

March 7, 2014

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region III  
2443 Warrenton Road, Suite 210  
Lisle, IL 60532-4352

Attn: Materials Licensing Branch

Re: A. Notification in Accordance with 10 CFR 30.36(d)(3) – NRC License No. 13-02752-03  
B. Request for Alternative Decommissioning Schedule Under 10 CFR 30.36(h)(1)(i)  
C. Request for Exemption from 10 CFR 30.36(d)(3)

Dear Sir/Madam:

**A. Notification in Accordance with 10 CFR 30.36(d)(3)**

During a recent Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) inspection, it was determined that we had not notified the NRC Region III Office of that fact that no licensed material had been utilized at our Conrad Farms facility, located at 7610 West County Line Road, Camby, Indiana within the past twenty-four (24) months. This letter hereby serves as that notification.

**B. Request for Alternative Decommissioning Schedule Under 10 CFR 30.36(h)(1)(i)**

The Conrad Farms facility is an extension of the “Laboratory Animal Research Center (LARC)” which is located on the main IUPUI campus in Indianapolis, IN. While no licensed material has been utilized at the Conrad Farms location recently, three laboratories in that location are currently listed on an active Radionuclide Use Permit, meaning that licensed material could have been utilized under that permit at any time. The Radionuclide Radiation Safety Committee reviews and approves the renewal of each active Radionuclide Use Permit including the authorized locations of use at least bi-annually. The IUPUI/IUMC Radiation Safety Office has contacted that Permit Holder and after consultation with his technical staff, they have determined that used of licensed material in those laboratories will not take place in the foreseeable future and as such the Conrad Farm laboratories can be decommissioned and removed from their permit.

Even though the decommissioning of those laboratories will eliminate any radionuclide use at the Conrad Farms at the present, the location offers facilities unique to LARC operations and other research investigators may wish to utilize licensed material at that facility in the future. Although currently not in use, because of the potential for expansion of activity at this location, the university requests that total decommissioning of the Conrad Farms location be delayed, subject to the following conditions:

1. The IUPUI/IUMC Radiation Safety Office (RSO) had conducted “close-out” surveys in the past for some laboratories at Conrad Farms that were no longer authorized for radionuclide use. The RSO has since conducted additional surveys in those previously authorized laboratories to assure they meet the release criteria for unrestricted use (i.e. 10 CFR 20.1402). The RSO has also performed surveys of the three laboratories that were

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still authorized for radionuclide use and found them to be free of contamination. Results of those surveys will be maintained for review during future NRC inspections.

2. Given the possibility of radionuclide use in the future, the Conrad Farms facility should remain listed as an authorized location of use on our NRC license; however, it will be placed on "standby" status until such time that radionuclide use is resumed or it is decided that no future use at that location will occur.
3. The administrative personnel responsible for the activities carried out at the Conrad Farms facility will notify the RSO of any actions (e.g. demolition, change in mission or transfer of ownership) that would require full decommissioning and notification of the NRC of the university's intent to forego all future use of radionuclides at that facility.
4. If it is determined that no future radionuclide use will occur at Conrad Farms, the NRC will be notified, a full decommissioning of the facility will be performed, the results forwarded to the NRC, and an amendment request submitted to remove that location from the NRC license.

### **C. Request for Exemption from 10 CFR 30.36(d)(3)**

While the notification portion of this letter is intended to address the Conrad Farms facility, strict application of the decommissioning and notification requirements specifically driven by 10 CFR 30.36(d)(3) is a challenge under our broad scope license, and creates unnecessary and time-consuming paperwork for both our institution and the NRC. Research use and to a lesser degree, medical use of licensed material fluctuates within laboratories at our institution under our broad-scope license. Authorization and decommissioning of laboratory space is in a constant state of flux. Changes are continuously monitored by the Radiation Safety Office (RSO) and the Radionuclide Radiation Safety Committee (RRSC) and laboratory areas requesting the use of licensed material are approved in accordance with procedures that have been approved by the NRC. Likewise, as researchers and clinicians cease use of licensed materials in various laboratories, the RSO performs surveys in those laboratories and releases them for unrestricted use in accordance with 10 CFR 20.1402. The university understands that this level of oversight is incumbent on all broad-scope licensees.

According to 10 CFR 30.36(d)(3), if a period of 24 months has passed since the last use of licensed material in a given building, notification and formal decommissioning of that particular building is required. Decommissioning of an entire building is more difficult and time-consuming than decommissioning of individual laboratories. This is problematic because as long as a particular building includes existing laboratory space (or could be remodeled to include new laboratory space), use of licensed material could resume at any time, including 24 months or more after the last use. In that case, the time and effort expended by both the NRC and our staff has been wasted with no discernable benefit in terms of protecting our personnel or the general public from radiation hazards. As such, the university requests that NRC license number 13-02752-03 be exempted from the decommissioning and notification requirements specifically required by 10 CFR 30.36(d)(3).

The university understands the basis of the requirements in 10 CFR 30.36(d)(3) is to prevent a licensed location from being abandoned and/or ownership transferred to another administrative entity while containing residual radioactivity that would exceed the requirements of 10 CFR

20.1402. In order to assure the NRC that such situations will not occur under this license, the university will implement the following actions:

1. Decommissioning surveys will continue to be performed for all laboratories that are no longer authorized for radionuclide use. Those laboratories will be released for unrestricted use providing they meet the requirements of 10 CFR 20.1402 and the surveys performed to demonstrate compliance with those requirements maintained for review during future NRC inspections.
2. Regardless of actual radionuclide use, as long as authorized radionuclide laboratories are listed on an existing Radionuclide Use Permit, those laboratories will be audited (including in-person visits by RSO staff) at least every six (6) months.
3. At such time there are no longer any authorized radionuclide laboratories within an existing building covered under the NRC license, the following actions will be implemented:
  - a. The RSO will request input from technical and/or administrative staff responsible for individual buildings and solicit information relative to the potential future use of radioactive material within that building. This information will be provided to the RRSC.
  - b. If the RRSC determines that radionuclide use may occur in the future, the affected building will be placed on "standby" status and the administrative personnel responsible for the activities carried out in that building will notify the RSO of any actions (e.g. demolition or transfer of ownership) that would require NRC notification and full decommissioning under 10 CFR 30.36(d).
  - c. If the RRSC determines that no future radionuclide use will occur in the affected building, the NRC will be notified, a full decommissioning of the building will be performed and the results forwarded to the NRC.
  - d. Documentation of the RRSC's actions will be maintained in the RRSC meeting minutes.

Should you have any questions regarding the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the IUPUI/IUMC Radiation Safety Office.

Sincerely,



Mack L. Richard, MS, CHP  
Director of Health Physics  
IUPUI/IUMC Radiation Safety Officer  
Office of Research Administration

Cc: E. Swank



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