

June 21, 2017

Dr. Partha Chowdhury, Director
Nuclear Radiation Laboratory
University of Massachusetts-Lowell
One University Avenue
Lowell, MA 01854

SUBJECT: UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS-LOWELL – REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE RENEWAL OF FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. R-125 FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS-LOWELL RESEARCH REACTOR RELATED TO FINANCIAL QUALIFICATIONS (CAC NO. MF7199)

Dear Dr. Chowdhury:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is continuing its review of your application for the renewal of Facility Operating License No. R-125 for the University of Massachusetts-Lowell Research Reactor dated October 20, 2015 (a redacted version of the application is available on the NRC's public Web site at www.nrc.gov under Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML16042A015).

During our review, a question has arisen for which additional information is needed. The enclosed request for additional information (RAI) identifies the additional information needed to continue our review. We request that you provide responses to the enclosed RAI within 30 days from the date of this letter.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 50.30(b), "Oath or affirmation," you must execute your response in a signed original document under oath or affirmation. Your response must be submitted in accordance with 10 CFR 50.4, "Written communications." Information included in your response that is considered sensitive or proprietary, that you seek to have withheld from the public, must be marked in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public inspections, exemptions, requests for withholding." Following receipt of the additional information, we will continue our evaluation of your renewal request.

P. Chowdhury

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If you have any questions, or need additional time to respond to this request, please contact Edward Helvenston at 301-415-4067, or by electronic mail at Edward.Helvenston@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/Alexander Adams Acting for RA/

Eben Allen, Project Manager
Research and Test Reactors Licensing Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-223
License No. R-125

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: See next page

University of Massachusetts - Lowell

Docket No. 50-223

cc:

Mayor of Lowell
City Hall
Lowell, MA 01852

Mr. Leo Bobek
Reactor Supervisor
University of Massachusetts - Lowell
One University Avenue
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Jack Priest, Director
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Test, Research and Training
Reactor Newsletter
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SUBJECT: UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS - LOWELL – REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE RENEWAL OF FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. R-125 FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS - LOWELL RESEARCH REACTOR RELATED TO FINANCIAL QUALIFICATIONS (CAC NO. MF7199) DATED: JUNE 21, 2017

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ADAMS Accession Nos.: ML17166A089; *concurred via e-mail

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DATE	6/20/17	6/20/17	6/20/17	6/21/17	6/21/17

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OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
REGARDING FINANCIAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE LICENSE RENEWAL FOR
THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS-LOWELL RESEARCH REACTOR
LICENSE NO. R-125; DOCKET NO. 50-223

In its application dated October 20, 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML16042A015), the University of Massachusetts-Lowell (UML) provided information to demonstrate for license renewal that the University of Massachusetts-Lowell Research Reactor (UMLRR) continues to satisfy the definition of a class 104 facility in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.21(c). That regulation states, in part, “that a class 104 facility useful in the conduct of research and development activities is not a facility of the type in 10 CFR 50.22,” which is a facility deemed to be for industrial or commercial purposes. A facility deemed to be for industrial or commercial purposes is a facility that is used such that more than 50 percent of the annual cost of owning and operating the facility is devoted to the production of materials, products, or energy for sale or commercial distribution, or to the sale of services, other than research and development or education or training.

RAI FR-1:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff requests that UML supplement the information from its October 20, 2015, application for renewal of the UMLRR license to clarify whether the cost of conducting commercial activities at the UMLRR is less than 50 percent of the cost of owning and operating the facility. A statement confirming that “the cost of conducting the [UMLRR’s] commercial activities is less than 50 percent of the cost of owning and operating the facility” would be acceptable, as appropriate, to support the UMLRR’s continued classification as a Class 104 licensed facility.