

Daniel K. Atwill, Presiding Commissioner
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Boone County Commission

December 11, 2017

The Commission
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing today in support of Northwest Medical Isotopes (NWMI) and their plan to build a medical radioisotope production facility at Discovery Ridge Research Park in Columbia, Missouri. This facility has the opportunity to have a substantial impact on the U.S. Healthcare System, and also a positive impact on our local economy.

Columbia, Missouri is ideal location for this facility because of the location of the University of Missouri Research Reactor (MURR) which has been operating successfully and safely since the 1960's, and has a long track record of providing research and development, as well as isotopes used in numerous medical treatments. Discovery Ridge Research Park, which is owned by the Curators of the University of Missouri, is the best location for the facility due to the emphasis on clustering life science research and biomedical operations in a research park setting. Discovery Ridge Research Park also offers easy access to US 63, Interstate 70 and the Columbia Regional Airport.

NWMI announced their intentions to build this facility in May, 2014. Over the last several years, our community has had several opportunities to provide comments on the location of the proposed facility in Columbia, and the comments have been overwhelmingly positive. We are happy to support this next step in the construction permitting process with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Thank you in advance for your positive consideration of NWMI's application for the construction permit at the January 23rd public hearing.

Sincerely,

Dan Atwill
Boone County Presiding Commissioner



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