

University of the District of Columbia
College of Physical Science, Engineering and Technology

Department of Chemistry, MB0302
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August 18, 1993

License Fee and Debt Collection Branch
Office of the Controller
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555 - 0001

RE: Invoice Number: AM00297 - 93
License Number: 08 - 16631 - 02
Code AA905: ANN
Annual Fee Category 3M

Dear Officer:

In response to the above reference material, I request a review and appeal of the prescribed fees. To prevent penalty and additional assessment, I request an extension of time to clarify the issues associated with our Materials License.

The University of the District of Columbia is primarily an undergraduate educational institution. It offers no graduate programs in the sciences. It conducts a minimal amount of research, some of which has used small quantities of radioisotopes in accordance to our Materials License. Over the past year this usage has been on hold due to the fact that the prime user has been away from the University on a leave-of-absence. Since this faculty member will not be returning to the University, our use of radioactive materials will decrease beyond the quantities specified in the License. Our license allows for the use of animals in research studies. During the past year no use of animals has been made. None will be used in studies planned for the foreseeable future.

In addition to using radioisotopes for teaching and research studies, some of our commercial instruments use radioactive isotopes as sealed sources. Without such sources, the instruments are not operable.

The fee and surcharge amounts assessed on our license places the University in an untenable position. The University

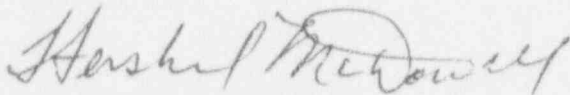
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is facing serious budget problems. The License fee appears to be too large for the amount of materials we use. We are faced with the possible choice of obtaining a fee reduction or being placed into a possession-only status. We have no funding sources such as grants from which to pay the fee. Budget shortages have forced every university employee to be furloughed 12 days this budget year.

Elimination of our License will serve as a major blow to both our research and instructional programs at the University. We can reduce the quantities of radioisotopes specified in our License, however, I have been led to believe that such action may have no bearing on the assessed fee. In any case, we need more time to deal with the terms of the invoice. Therefore, we are requesting an extension to enable us to pursue ways of addressing this matter.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Hershel McDowell
Chairman
Chemistry Department

HM:ch