



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI SYSTEM

Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs

309 University Hall
Columbia, Missouri 65211
Telephone (314) 882-6396

October 29, 1990

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region III
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Licenses Nos. 24-00513-32; SNM-247
Docket Nos. 030-02278; 070-00270

ATTN: John A. Grobe, Chief

Dear Dr. Grobe:

Enclosed is the University's response to the special safety inspection conducted by Messrs. S. Mulay, J. Mumper, and J. Lynch on July 9-10, 1990. Your letter, dated October 5, 1990, listed four violations and two areas of concern. The four violations are addressed in a separate letter.

In response to the two areas of concern, I would like to inform you of the efforts that have been made to correct those concerns.

1. "We are concerned that: (1) the evaluation of a prospective Radionuclide Principal Investigator at the University did not appear to be adequate as detailed in Section 6 of this report . . ."

Evaluations of prospective authorized users on the Columbia campus have been discussed in detail with personnel of the Environmental Health & Safety Office and at the October 25, 1990, meeting of the Campus Radiation Control Committee. Procedures are now in place for a more thorough review of the training backgrounds of principal investigators prior to being approved by the campus committee. All new authorized users will be required to attend a two hour training session given by the Environmental Health & Safety, Health Physics Services section, prior to the users' approval by the committee. In addition, the committee requires that prospective authorized users be furnished a copy of the Handbook of Radiological Operations and submit a signed statement that shall accompany their application to use radioactive materials stating that the user is familiar with the University's radiation safety requirements.

2. "We are concerned that: . . . (2) a non-harmonious relationship between the Radiation Safety Office and the Environmental Health & Safety Office appears to be disruptive to the radiation safety program."

The University acknowledges the concerns expressed by the NRC concerning the non-harmonious relationship between the two offices. On July 20 the management staff of the Radiation Safety Office, the Environmental Health & Safety Office, and offices to whom the two departments report met to discuss ways in which to improve communications and coordination between the two departments. The result is that the two departments are making good-faith efforts to resolve the communications problems and additional similar meetings are and will be scheduled to maintain and further improve upon the progress. Moreover, the University has contracted two nationally known health

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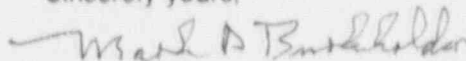
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physicists (Dr. Francis Massé from MIT and Dr. Keith Schiager from the University of Utah) as consultants to formally review the University's radiation safety program and to provide recommendations for further improving the program.

If you have any questions concerning this response, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mark A. Burkholder".

Mark A. Burkholder
Associate Vice President
for Academic Affairs