

June 26, 2020

Sara Forster  
U.S. NRC

Ms. Forster,

Thank you for taking the time to review our requests and your assistance, regarding license Ascension Macomb Oakland Hospital, NRC Lic. No. 21-01190-05, CN621055.

I confirm we had a phone conversation Friday, June 19, 2020, and I confirm we did not meet as a Radiation Safety for the second quarter 2020.

We did miss our April 2020 quarterly meeting and nuclear material use was not suspended during the entire quarter, we did use 10CFR part 100, 200, 300, 600 and 1000 materials during this time period.

I did however summarize RSC items to many of the RSC member via verbal conversations. We did not consider holding a meeting, to meet Covid 19 protocols of not meeting in person within a 6foot range, we did consider phone conversations, but were in the middle of caring for both patients and ourselves during and extreme health crisis, solving patient care issues became the obvious priority. All aspects of the RSC meeting were completed within the quarter, we just did not have the RSC formal meeting. I did communicate items that would be presented during RSC to many RSC members, but not all.

All aspects of our RSC meeting items were completed, all audits, all security related items, all requirement and items that would have been presented at the meeting were completed on time and within the first quarter. I have never missed a Radiation Safety Committee meeting in all my years of Junior Physicist, Junior RSO or RSO which is a total of over 25 years, we do not plan on missing any in the future.

We submit to request a 3 month extension of time to complete our RSC, but intend on meeting it within the month of July 2020. We also would like to request an amendment to remove the quarterly meeting requirement specified in its letter to the NRC, which is incorporated by tiedown

Condition No. 13.A., to the licensee's license. The license amendment is also attached.

Our request to perform inservices late includes the request to complete training within the next or third quarter. This would be to defer annual training specified in Title 10 of the *Code of Regulations* (CFR) Sections 35.310, 35.410, or 35.610. To clarify, the 2019 were completed and the 2020 inservices will be completed, but those that were due in the second quarter, are now on schedule to be completed in the third quarter.

I believe this answers all of your questions, but would gladly provide more information if needed.

Sincerely,  
Laura T. Speer Smith  
Radiation Safety Officer

## Song, Taehoon

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**From:** Forster, Sara  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 11:30 AM  
**To:** Song, Taehoon; Tomczak, Tammy; Pavon, Sandy  
**Cc:** Orlikowski, Robert  
**Subject:** FW: Re: Additional Information Request re COVID 19 exemption request for Ascension Macomb Oakland Hospital, NRC Lic. No. 21-01190-05, CN621055  
**Attachments:** SJMacombOak NRC exemption request 2020.pdf

Hi Tae and Sandy...

Could you please scan this in? It is additional information to the referenced action.

Thank you,

Sara

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**From:** Laura T. Smith- Physics <lsphysics@att.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 10:17 AM  
**To:** Forster, Sara <Sara.Forster@nrc.gov>  
**Subject:** [External\_Sender] Re: Additional Information Request re COVID 19 exemption request for Ascension Macomb Oakland Hospital, NRC Lic. No. 21-01190-05, CN621055

I will send the letterhead copy later tonight, but also set up a RSC for tomorrow.

Laura Speer Smith

On Tuesday, June 23, 2020, 11:41:38 AM EDT, Forster, Sara <[sara.forster@nrc.gov](mailto:sara.forster@nrc.gov)> wrote:

Dear Ms. Smith:

Thank you for meeting with me via phone last Friday, June 19, 2020. This message is a follow-up to our conversation, concerning your May 28, 2020 email, requesting an exemption from the Radiation Safety Committee (RSC) program oversight requirements, including meeting once per calendar quarter and doing "inservices" late. In order to complete our review, additional information is needed.

- Please indicate whether any operations at the referenced facility (i.e. medical use under 10 CFR 35.300, 35.400, 35.600, etc.) have been suspended, for the period when the RSC will be unable to meet. If any more than one activity has not been suspended, please clarify which activities are continuing and which will not be occurring, during the time period for which the exemption is requested.

- Please indicate whether it would be possible to hold a modified version of the RSC meetings, where certain members are not present. (i.e. not requiring participation by members whose departments are closed, etc.) If it is not possible to hold meetings at all, please clarify why such meetings cannot be held via phone or video conferencing tools.
- If the meeting cannot be held during the second quarter of 2020, please indicate how the licensee is continuing to assure RSC oversight of the licensee's implementation of ALARA, any incidents, generic communications, changes to authorized users and uses, safety evaluations, audits, and medical events, as defined in 10 CFR 35.2. For example, please describe how such information is shared between committee members – such as via email or phone, during the period between committee meetings.
- Please specify the duration for which the exemption is requested (i.e. 7 days, 30 days, 90 days, etc.), and the date by which the next RSC meeting will be held.
- Please clarify whether the licensee is requesting an exemption from holding the second quarter 2020 RSC meeting and to hold only one RSC meeting during the third quarter of 2020, or whether the licensee will be holding two RSC meetings during the third quarter of 2020, with one of the two meetings simply being a “late” second quarter meeting?
- Please note that, under 10 CFR 35.24(f), a licensee authorized for 10 CFR 35.300, 35.400, and 35.600 is required to establish and maintain an RSC to oversee all uses of byproduct material permitted by the license. The RSC must include an authorized user of each type of use permitted by the license, the Radiation Safety Officer, a representative of the nursing service, and a representative of management who is neither an authorized user nor a Radiation Safety Officer. The RSC may include other members the licensee considers appropriate. However, the requirement for the licensee's RSC to meet on a quarterly basis is based on commitments from the licensee to the NRC to do so. Accordingly, the licensee may request an amendment to remove the quarterly meeting requirement specified in its letter to the NRC, which is incorporated by tiedown Condition No. 13.A., to the licensee's license. Please clarify why the licensee is requesting an exemption rather than an amendment, at this time.
- Please clarify the request to do “inservices” late. For example, is it a request to defer required radiation safety training that is required beyond the annual requirement specified in Title 10 of the *Code of Regulations* (CFR) Sections 35.310, 35.410, or 35.610? Or, is it a request to defer required transportation training requirements by Title 49 of the CFR via 10 CFR 71.5?
- If an exemption from annual training requirements is needed, please specify when the exemption will no longer be needed.

To facilitate the issuance of the exemption request on or before Tuesday, June 30, 2020, please provide a signed and dated letter restating your exemption request, and responding to the items above, on or before Friday, June 26, 2020. In addition, if you could either call or email as soon as possible with a brief description of your planned responses, that will help to facilitate our timely review of your request. Please call or email me with any questions you may have, or if you are unable to respond by the date suggested above. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

**Sara A. Forster, Health Physicist Licensing Reviewer**

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission - Region III

Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

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