

March 01, 2024

ATTN: Document Control Desk  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

REFERENCE: Docket Number No. 50-186  
University of Missouri-Columbia Research Reactor  
Renewed Facility Operating License No. R-103

SUBJECT: Federal Funding for the Conversion of the University of Missouri-Columbia  
Research Reactor from Highly-Enriched Uranium Fuel to Low-Enriched Uranium  
Fuel

Enclosed is a copy of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Material Management and Minimization, letter stating Federal funding under the DOE's University Research Reactor Infrastructure Program for the conversion of the University of Missouri-Columbia Research Reactor (MURR®) from highly-enriched uranium (HEU) to low-enriched uranium (LEU) fuel will not be available during fiscal year 2024.

Sincerely,



Ronald M. Astrino  
Reactor Manager

ENDORSEMENT:  
Reviewed and Approved



Matthew R. Sanford  
Reactor Facility Director

cc: Reactor Advisory Committee  
Reactor Safety Subcommittee  
Dr. Thomas Spencer, Vice Chancellor, Division of Research, Innovation & Impact  
Mr. Geoffrey Wertz, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mr. Andrew Waugh, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Enclosure:

1. DOE Letter to MURR Regarding Conversion Funding, dated March 1, 2023



Department of Energy  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Washington, DC 20585



March 1, 2024

Mr. Matt Sanford  
University of Missouri - Columbia  
Research Reactor  
Facility Columbia, MO 65211

Dear Mr. Sanford:

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.64, *Limitations on the Use of Highly Enriched Uranium in Domestic Non-Power Reactors*, the University of Missouri's Research Reactor (MURR) is required to send a letter annually to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission documenting if Federal funds are available to convert to low-enriched uranium (LEU) fuel.

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.64, you are hereby notified that Department of Energy funding will not be available in fiscal year 2024 to complete the conversion of MURR to LEU fuel. While significant funds are being invested to qualify a new LEU fuel that will meet MURR's performance requirements and support the conversion of MURR, an acceptable LEU fuel is not currently available.

You will be notified in the event these circumstances change. If you have any questions, please contact me at my office number, (202) 287-6726.

Sincerely,

*Brian Waud*

Brian Waud  
Team Lead, Office of Conversion  
Office of Material Management & Minimization  
Office of Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation

cc: Joanie Dix, NA-231  
Vic Pearson, DOE-ID