

Dr. John A. Bernard, Director
Nuclear Reactor Laboratory
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
138 Albany Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-4296

December 21, 1999

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT NO. 31 TO AMENDED FACILITY OPERATING
LICENSE NO. R-37 - MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
(TAC NO. M99844)

Dear Dr. Bernard:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 31 to Amended Facility Operating License No. R-37 for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Research Reactor (MITR). The amendment consists of changes to the technical specifications (TS) in response to your submittal of October 3, 1997, as supplemented on January 14, June 24, July 29, October 20, and November 12, 1999.

The amendment allows operation of a subcritical fission converter facility at the MITR. The use of the fission converter for the irradiation of humans is under review as part of your application for license amendment dated June 30, 1999. The results of that review will be sent separately. To assist in our preparation to inspect the start up of the converter facility, please send copies of your start up procedures no later than 15 days prior to the planned start up of the converter.

A copy of the safety evaluation supporting Amendment No. 31 is also enclosed.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Alexander Adams, Jr., Senior Project Manager
Events Assessment, Generic Communications and
Non-Power Reactors Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-20

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 31
2. Safety Evaluation

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alexander Adams, Jr.".

Alexander Adams, Jr., Senior Project Manager
Events Assessment, Generic Communications and
Non-Power Reactors Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
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Massachusetts Institute of
Technology

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cc:

City Manager
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Assistant Secretary for Policy
Executive Office of Energy Resources
100 Cambridge Street,
Room 1500
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Boston, MA 02108

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Reactor Newsletter
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