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CAMBRIDGE, NASSACHUSETTS 02 39

April 17, 1979

Mr. William E. Mott, Acting Director Environmental Control Technology Division Department of Energy Washington, D. C. **20545**

Dear Mr. Mott:

In response to your March 13, 1979 inquiry soliciting additional information regarding facilities involved in the feed materials program of MED/AEC, the following supplementary information is provided with respect to the Hood Building located at 155 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The facility known as the Hood Building was built about 1905 and consisted of three stories and a penthouse and part basement covering a land area of 15,273 square feet. The total floor area of the building, including the penthouse area, was approximately 67,000 square feet. It was an old-fashioned brick and mill construction building of the light manufacturing type; foundation walls were in general made of stone, and all exterior walls and main interior walls of brick masonry. The principal occupant of the building prior to its acquisition was the Hood Dairy Company.

Following acquisition by the Atomic Energy Commission, the structure was used by the AEC and its contractors, including M.I.T., to conduct research on beryllium and other rare metals. This research was eventually transferred to the Nuclear Metals Corporation of Cambridge under a contract with the AEC. When Nuclear Metals moved out in 1958, the building remained unoccupied and sealed off for several years.

On February 21, 1961, M.I.T. submitted a formal application to obtain the land and building under the provisions of Section 203(k)(1) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services of 1949 (63 Stat. 377) as amended. M.I.T. noted that the facility was centrally located adjacent to the M. I. T. campus, and due to the contamination, it was M.I. T. 's intention to demolish the building as unsuitable for M. I. T. occupancy and to construct another in its place at M. I. T. expense for use in connection with M. I. T. research programs.

The property was thereafter conveyed from the United States to M.I.T. by deed dated May 1, 1962, and as a condition of the transfer, M. I. T. agreed that it would undertake construction on the site within eighteen months after demolition of the Hood Building. M.I. T. requested and received approval for the construction of a high voltage research laboratory, incorporating radiation research facilities and facilities for physical and clinical high voltage x-ray treatment. Completed in 1965, the High Voltage Research Laboratory has been operated as an integral part of the Institute's educational research activities.

Simcerely,

Glenn P. Strehle

Treasurer