



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

February 6, 2023

Dr. Lia Merminga
President
Fermi Research Alliance, LLC
P.O. Box 500
Batavia, Illinois 60510-5011

Dear Dr. Merminga:

This letter serves as notification of the Office of Enterprise Assessments, Office of Enforcement's decision to conduct an investigation into the facts and circumstances associated with an unplanned radiation exposure to a worker during the month of May 2022 in the Proton Source Test Area of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory. The exposure was discovered on August 25, 2022 by Fermi Research Alliance, LLC, (FRA) through quarterly dosimetry results. FRA reported potential noncompliances associated with this event into the Department of Energy's (DOE) Noncompliance Tracking System under NTS-SC-FSO-FRA-FERMIBOP-2022-0010490, dated October 18, 2022.

The Office of Enforcement will conduct this investigation pursuant to the authority set forth in 10 C.F.R. Part 820, *Procedural Rules for DOE Nuclear Activities*, § 820.21, *Investigations*. The investigation will include an onsite visit and interviews with contractor personnel.

A request for documents to support this investigation will be provided separately via e-mail. Your cooperation to ensure timely submission of all requested documents to our office by the requested date is appreciated.

Under the Major Fraud Act (MFA), as amended, 41 U.S.C. § 4310, this investigation may be a proceeding commenced by the United States that relates to a violation of, or the failure to comply with, a Federal regulation. Costs incurred in connection with such a proceeding are subject to the reimbursement restrictions of the MFA implemented at 48 C.F.R. § 31.205-47. As a result, FRA should track any costs incurred that are directly attributable to supporting DOE's investigation, subsequent to receipt of this letter, and segregate them from other potentially allowable costs.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (301) 903-4033, or your staff may contact Jacob M. Miller, Director, Office of Nuclear Safety Enforcement, at (301) 903-7707.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony C. Pierpoint".

Anthony C. Pierpoint
Director
Office of Enforcement
Office of Enterprise Assessments

cc: Roger E. Snyder, SC-FSO
Matthew Quinn, FRA