

JUL 11 1975

R. G. Romatowski
 Assistant Administrator
 for Administration

MIT PROPOSAL

Staff have reviewed the material relating to a proposed MIT Energy Laboratory. The program as outlined seems to be overly broad and vague; owing to this unfocused approach, the program as inaugurated would cover a good part of AES' programmatic interest, including control technology.

Staff recognizes the broad and deep competence of MIT scientists in wide areas of basic and applied science and technology. BER, in addition, has had a long and fruitful association with MIT in the areas of instrument development and more specifically in human radiobiology involving the followup on the radium dial painters carried out for many years under the direction of Dr. Roblay Evans. This program is now centralized at the Argonne National Laboratory, following Dr. Evan's retirement.

The programs stated interest in the societal impact of energy production, the broad interests of oceanography and ocean science, atmospheric sciences, bioconversion, and the basic molecular biological and biophysical sciences fall within the mainstream of BER's mission and interests. The lead responsibility of BER efforts in these areas, however, and the main coordination function now rests in a number of our national laboratories (particularly Brookhaven, Argonne and Holifield). Accordingly, staff feel that while support on a specific project basis in these areas might well be desirable at MIT, our input would be considered more of an ancillary and supporting function rather than an important lead responsibility at this proposed new laboratory.

At this point, BER's suggested approach would be to consider proposals from the Energy Laboratory on a case-by-case basis in the areas mentioned above or in any other areas of programmatic interest to the Division. We do not consider this a "job shopping" operation; our entire off-site research program is carried on in this manner in an orderly long-term fashion. We feel at this time that any across-the-board level of effort

1098473

REPOSITORY Yermastou RCCOLLECTION 7723BOX No. 7/12, LOC # 6079FOLDER MHS-21 (1975)

MIT (MASS GEN & UNIV. OF MASS)

institutional grant-type of support would not be compatible with our current operations. We have already been involved in such ancillary support at the Division of Physical Research's on-site Radiation Laboratory at the University of Notre Dame on a project level. This arrangement has worked out quite satisfactorily both for BER's biophysical program and for the Notre Dame's Radiation Laboratory. We would certainly anticipate that, should the MIT Energy Laboratory be set up, we would entertain similar unsolicited specific proposals as warranted in the continued development of the overall BER program.

It is, of course, remotely possible that if ERDA, as a whole, decided to sponsor a very large "on-site" program there, the AES activities could operate within that framework in much the same way as currently with our existing national laboratories.

Original signed by
James L. Liverman

James L. Liverman
Assistant Administrator
for Environment and Safety

cc: Robert C. Seamans, Jr.
Robert W. Fri
Michael I. Yarymovych
M. C. Greer

bcc: Mr. Maher
Mr. Hollister
Mr. Whitnah
Dr. Edington

: BER:ADRD
: _____
: CWEdington
: _____
: 7/ 175

MC # 7516

OFFICE >	BER:ADLIL	BER:O/AES	BER:O/AES	BER:ADPC	BER:DDIB	
SURNAME >	Kirby Smith <i>ew</i>	JMaher	HHollister	JWhitnah	WWB	JLiverman
DATE >	7/1/75	7/3/75	7/8/75	7/8/75	7/10/75	7/10/75

1098474