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The University of Wisconsin System



VICE PRESIDENT AND CONTROLLER

1752 Van Hise Hall / 1220 Linden Drive / Madison, Wisconsin 53706 / 608 / 262-1311

July 28, 1976

JUL 30 1976

Mr. Gersten Sadowsky  
Division of General Law  
Office of the Solicitor  
United States Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Sadowsky:

Re: Application for an Exclusive License under  
Patent to be Granted on Patent Application  
Serial No. 508,013 for "Magnetic Ore Separator"  
by Roger W. Boom, et al (MIN-2195)

Your letter of April 27, 1976 regarding the above subject suggested that additional information would be helpful in supporting our application. The Federal Property Management Regulations, Part 101-4 Patents, have been reviewed, and this additional information and data is being submitted for your consideration.

The applicant is a non-profit institution of higher education. It is an agency of state government and operates the University of Wisconsin System.

We believe that the University of Wisconsin has both the interest and scientific competence to work with industry in the development of a commercially successful magnetic ore separator. We are requesting an exclusive license with the right to sub-license to industrial concerns which are willing to invest capital and effort in developing this ore separator. The design and construction of a large working model would cost several hundred thousand dollars. Preliminary discussions with interested companies indicate that they consider it essential to have the protection of a sub-license through and beyond the commercial development stage to justify the large capital investment. We believe if we are granted an exclusive license with the right to sub-license, we can successfully and promptly contract with an industrial partner to proceed with the project.

The Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF), the University's patent and licensing arm, has a policy of requiring a licensee to effectively pursue real development activity and report on such activity semi-annually. If at any time WARF determines that development activity is lacking, it may terminate the license agreement.

Neither the applicant nor WARF is a commercially oriented establishment. The applicant would not practice the invention but would license it to the mining industry, where it would be used after development has been completed

July 28, 1976

to the point of commercial use. The geographic areas where the invention would be used would be determined by the domestic companies receiving a license.

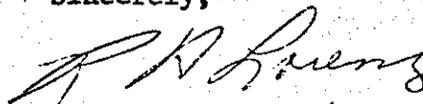
WARF was created in 1925 and has been licensing patents assigned to it since that time. The Licensing Division of WARF is in almost daily contact with representatives of commercial companies who are seeking new technology. In fact, one of its greatest assets for accomplishing the licensing function is the many acquaintances it has throughout the United States and, to some extent, in foreign countries. WARF is the designee of the University of Wisconsin under Institutional Patent Agreements with DHEW and NSF. In addition, DOD has also approved our technology transfer program and is offering advance waivers of patent rights in its contracts. WARF is a non-profit corporation the net income of which is donated to the University for further research as determined by the University Research Committee.

Our best knowledge indicates that the subject patent is not being practiced by private industry or by the government.

The design and construction of a demonstration plant could begin as soon as funds are available. The estimated cost is about \$500,000. Some institutional funds and resources are available now, but we need the exclusive license to successfully induce private industry to participate in this development. There appears to be an extreme reluctance by private companies to take a license from the government. It would be in the public interest to grant us an exclusive license thereby greatly enhancing our chances of getting this invention into public use.

The Bureau of Mines has already invested considerable funds in this invention. By granting an exclusive license now, and thereby accelerating the process of getting it into commercial use, there will be a greater and earlier return on this investment of federal funds. At present, Bureau of Mines funds granted to the University of Wisconsin-Madison are being held in reserve awaiting the accumulation of sufficient funds for the demonstration plant. The granting of the exclusive license requested will make possible a chain of events which will best serve the public interest by developing the Magnetic Ore Separator invention to the point of practical application and making it available to the public in the shortest possible time.

Sincerely,



Reuben H. Lorenz  
Vice President  
and Controller

cc: Roger W. Boom  
Marvin D. Woerpel ✓