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Myra H. Monfort
Chairman of the Board

Kumar Mahadevan, Ph.D.
Executive Director

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Mote Aquaculture Park • 12300 Fruitville Road • Sarasota, FL 34240

July 23, 2002

Secretary of Labor
Top-Hat Plan Exemption
Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration
Room N-5644
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20210

02 JUL 30 PM 2:00
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
PENSION AND WELFARE BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

Reference: Mote Marine Laboratory 457(b) Top-Hat Plan

Dear Secretary:

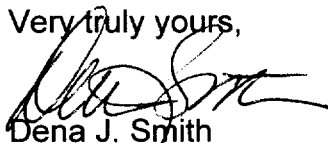
Pursuant to Section 2520.104-23 of the Department of Labor's Regulations, this letter will serve as notice that, with respect to the Mote Marine Laboratory 457(b) Top-Hat Plan (the "Plan"), the undersigned intends to utilize the alternative form of compliance with the reporting and disclosure requirements of Part 1 of Title 1 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), which alternative form of compliance is provided in the aforesaid Regulations Section.

Pursuant to Regulations Section 2520.204-23(b), the following information is provided.

1. Name and Address of Employer: Mote Marine Laboratory
1600 Ken Thompson Parkway
Sarasota FL 34236
2. Employer's Identification Number: 59-0756643
3. The Employer hereby declares that it maintains the Plan primarily for the purpose of providing deferred compensation for a select group of management or highly compensated employees, and that there are eight eligible employees in such plan at this time.

Pursuant to Regulations Section 2520.204-23(b), the Employer will provide Plan documents, if any, to the Secretary of Labor upon request as required by Section 104(a)(1) of ERISA.

Very truly yours,


Dena J. Smith
Chief Financial Officer

:lmf

A nonprofit organization dedicated to excellence in marine sciences and a member of:

• AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS • ASSOCIATION OF MARINE LABORATORIES OF THE CARIBBEAN • FLORIDA OCEAN ALLIANCE
• NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MARINE LABORATORIES • SCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL OF SARASOTA COUNTY • SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF MARINE LABORATORIES

MOTE MARINE LABORATORY

1600 Ken Thompson Parkway
Sarasota, Florida 34236

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