



October 17, 2000
IEL- 3291

VIA OVERNIGHT EXPRESS SERVICE

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Mr. Ronald D. Hauber, Director
Exports, Security and Safety Cooperation
Mail Stop: O-4 E9
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

XSNM 02644/02
11004516

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Subject: **XSNM02644; Urgent Request for License Amendment to Add Intermediate Consignee**

- References:
- 1) Asmussen, Keith E., Letter No. IEL-3279 to Mr. Ronald D. Hauber dated September 26, 2000, "Supplemental Information Re: Export of TRIGA® Fuel Elements to Morocco; XSNM02644"
 - 2) Asmussen, Keith E., Letter No. IEL-2401 to Mr. Ronald D. Hauber dated May 19, 1995, "Request for License to Export SNM to France"
 - 3) XSNM02879 and XSNM03146; Authorized export of uranium enriched to 19.9 w/o maximum, in various forms, to France (CERCA)

Dear Mr. Hauber:

General Atomics (GA) has a commitment to supply TRIGA® fuel elements containing low enriched uranium to the National Center for Energy, Sciences and Nuclear Technologies (i.e., the Centre National de L'Energie, des Sciences et des Techniques Nucleaires (CNESTEN)) in the Kingdom of Morocco. These fuel elements will be used in a TRIGA® Mark II research reactor. GA applied for and received export license number XSMN02644 authorizing this export.

GA recently advised the NRC (Ref. 1) that five (5) standard TRIGA® fuel elements GA is preparing to export to Morocco under XSNM02644 will be supplied by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). In Reference 1, GA also advised the NRC that the subject fuel elements owned by DOE are located at Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) and that GA intended to ship the five (5) TRIGA® fuel elements directly from Penn State to Morocco. The purpose of this letter is to advise the NRC that these five (5) fuel elements will, indeed, be shipped from Penn State, but they will be shipped first to France for consolidation with other similar TRIGA® fuel elements before being shipped on to Morocco. Thus, the purpose of this letter is to request that the following intermediate consignee be added to XSNM02644:

Compagne Pour L'Etude et La Realisation
De Combustibles Atomiques (CERCA)
Les Berauds B.P. 1114
26104 Romans, France

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CERCA and GA are parties to a joint venture agreement under which TRIGA® fuel is marketed world wide and TRIGA® fuel is manufactured at CERCA's manufacturing facility at Romans, France (Ref. 2). Thus, CERCA is the ultimate consignee on other of GA's export licenses (e.g., Ref. 3).

Enclosed, is a check in the amount of \$1,700 for the license amendment fee associated with this request. *Inasmuch as GA has a need to complete the shipment of the subject fuel from Penn State before the end of this year, there is some urgency to our request.* Thank you for the attention given this request. If you have questions, or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (858) 455-2823.

Very truly yours,



Keith E. Asmussen, Ph.D, Director
Licensing, Safety and Nuclear Compliance

cc: Ms. Betty Wright, NRC

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