

**TRANSNUCLEAR, INC.**

May 2, 2001  
E-18891

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Mr. E. William Brach, Director  
Spent Fuel Project Office  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: NUHOMS<sup>®</sup>MP-197 Transport Packaging Safety Analysis Report

Dear Mr. Brach:

Enclosed for your review and approval are:

1. Ten (10) copies of the NUHOMS<sup>®</sup>MP-197 Transport Package Safety Analysis Report, Rev 0. (Nonproprietary version).
2. Ten (10) copies of the proprietary Appendix A to Chapter 8 of the NUHOMS<sup>®</sup>MP-197 Transport Package Safety Analysis Report, Rev 0.
3. One (1) copy of a Transnuclear Application for Withholding Proprietary Information from Public Disclosure (E-18889).
4. One (1) copy of an original Transnuclear affidavit for proprietary information, (E-18890).
5. One (1) copy of a California Consolidated Technology Application for Withholding Proprietary Information from Public Disclosure.
6. One (1) copy of an original California Consolidated Technology affidavit for proprietary information.

Transnuclear requests that the NRC review the Safety Analysis Report (SAR) and issue a Certificate of Compliance (C of C) for the NUHOMS<sup>®</sup>MP-197 Packaging under 10 CFR 71. The SAR evaluates the MP-197 packaging containing the 61BT fuel canister. Transnuclear, TN West, has recently submitted and amendment application for inclusion of a 61BT spent fuel canister in its NUHOMS<sup>®</sup> Certificate of Compliance No 1004. The canister and fuel basket for the MP-197 are identical to the 61BT storage amendment.

*NMSSol Prop*

The 61BT amendment includes a proprietary qualification program for METAMIC<sup>®</sup> metal matrix composite as Attachment 2. Further information has been obtained on METAMIC<sup>®</sup> and is included in this submittal as a proprietary Appendix A for Chapter 8, "Technical Assessment of the Boron Carbide in METAMIC<sup>®</sup>". The design of the MP-197 packaging is very similar to the NUHOMS<sup>®</sup> MP-187 packaging, docket No. 71-9255. Scale model impact limiter testing has been performed for the MP-197 and is included in the SAR. The testing program was based on the one performed for our recently licensed TN-68 Transport Packaging, Certificate of Compliance No. 9293.

As mentioned in the amendment submittal for the 61BT canister, Transnuclear is committed to support Oyster Creek loading campaign scheduled for early spring of 2002. While actual transport of the 61BT canister is not a scheduled event, we need to have reasonable assurance of the transportability of the MP-197/61BT package in this same time frame. We would hope that the recent approval of the TN-68 transport packaging and the current draft SER for the 61BT canister would help expedite the review process of the MP-197 transport packaging such that the goal mentioned above could be attained.

If you have any questions, please call me.

Sincerely,



Michael Mason  
Chief Engineer