

August 19, 2002

The Honorable Richard Shelby
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Shelby:

I am responding to your letter dated July 9, 2002, regarding a licensing request by your constituent, United States Steel, related to a Scan Technologies, Incorporated (ScanTech) moisture analyzing monitor. My staff is giving the issue the prompt consideration requested in your letter and we will expedite our review supporting the license request.

United States Steel currently possesses a license issued by the State of Alabama that permits them to possess and use certain radioactive material. In order for United States Steel to obtain and use the ScanTech moisture analyzing monitor, it will have to amend its current license. Before Alabama can amend the license, United States Steel will have to submit an amendment request and the monitor has to be approved as a sealed source device (i.e., the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission must issue a registration certificate for this particular device). ScanTech has already applied to us for such an approval. ScanTech first applied on January 4, 2001, but its application was not complete, and thus it withdrew the application on July 7, 2001. A second application was submitted on August 9, 2001, but again it was not complete, and ScanTech withdrew that application on February 2, 2002. We received ScanTech's third application on June 25, 2002. Our preliminary review indicates the application is complete and we will expedite our review. The normal review period would have a completion date of December 22, 2002, but with a higher priority, we will complete the review by October 31, 2002.

I trust that this information responds to your concerns. If you have further questions, please contact Charles Cox, of my staff, at (301) 415-6755, or through e-mail, at cxc5@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

William D. Travers
Executive Director
for Operations

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 United States Senate
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