



January 19, 2005

Mr. Richard W. Boyle
Director of Hazardous Materials Technology
Research and Special Programs Administration
Office of Hazardous Materials Transportation
Radioactive Materials Branch
U.S. Department of Transport, Room 8430
400 7th Street, South West
Washington, D.C. 20590

**Subject: Application for Validation of the Canadian Nuclear Safety
Commission Package Design Approval Certificate CDN/2078/B(U)-96
(Rev.0) for the F-458/F-245, F-458/F-247, F-458/F-251, F-458/F-251
MK2, F-458/F-318 and F-458/F-448 Transport Packages**

Dear Mr. Boyle,

This letter is to request the validation of the Canadian certificate CDN/2078/B(U)-96. Please find attached a copy of the Canadian certificate. MDS Nordion is requesting a two-year validation of the Canadian certificate to allow the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission sufficient time to review the Safety Analysis Report.

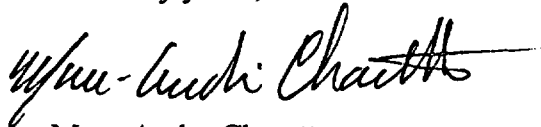
The F-458 package will replace the F-327 outer drum. The same shielding vessels and leakproof inserts used in the F-327 family of packages will be used in the F-458 transport package.

Attached are two proprietary copies of the revised Safety Analysis Report, MDS Nordion document number IN/TR 1791 F458 (3) and two non proprietary copies. Attached is an affidavit to support MDS Nordion's request to withhold the above-mentioned document from public disclosure. This document is specific to the design and fabrication of the F-458/F-245, F-458/F-247, F-458/F-251, F-458/F-251 MK2, F-458/F-318 and F-458/F-448 transport packages and would enable a third party to manufacture similar transport packages.

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Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at (613) 592-3400 ext. 2421 or by fax at (613) 592-2006 or by email at mcharette@mds.nordion.com.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc-Andre Charette". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Marc-Andre Charette
International Transport & Nuclear Initiatives
Manager, Regulatory Affairs

Encl: CDN/2078/B(U)-96 (Rev.0), IS/TR 1791 F458 (3), Affidavit

Copy to: Mike Krzaniak, Karine Glenn, Luc Desgagné