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J. A. Rode, Plant Manager

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION REGION III 799 ROOSEVELT ROAD GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

February 12, 1982

Gentlemen:

The enclosed IE Information Notice No. 80-32, Rev. 1 is being issued as a supplement to the IE Information Notice No. 80-32, issued on August 29, 1980. Its purpose is to clarify and amend three paragraphs and the Appendices only to the original notice. If there are any questions related to the notice, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

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James G. Keppler Regional Administrator

Enclosure: IE Information Notice No. 80-32, Rev. 1

SSIN No.: 6835 Accession No.: 8107230047 IN 80-32, Rev. 1

#### UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

#### February 12, 1982

IE INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 80-32 Rev. 1: CLARIFICATION OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR EXCLUSIVE-USE SHIPMENTS OF RADIO-ACTIVE MATERIALS

This is a supplement to IE Information Notice No. 80-32, originally issued August 29, 1980. It is intended to clarify Question/Answer Numbers 1, 5 and 6 and Appendices A and B on which there have been numerous questions and inquiries. Those paragraphs and appendices are superceded as follows:

- 1. Q. What radiation limits would apply to shipments being transported on an open exclusive-use transport vehicle?
  - A. The constraints of 49 CFR §173.393(j)(3) and (4) would apply; e.g., 10 mrem/hr at 2 meters from the open planes projected by the outer lateral edges of the vehicle, and 2 mrem/hr in any normally occupied area of the vehicle (cab).
  - Note: As a matter of clarification, it is important to point out that, in its queries to the Department of Transportation (DOT) on the correct interpretation of §173.393(i) and (j), NRC has been advised that the existing language of §173.393(j) does not clearly reflect the original intent of the regulation; i.e., to limit the radiation level at the accessible exterior surface of a package on an <u>open</u> exclusive-use vehicle to 200 mrem/hr (such as the same limit applied to the surface of a closed transport vehicle). DOT has stated that it is currently taking steps to revise §173.393(j). In the interim, NRC licensees are urged and cautioned to adhere to a surface radiation level limit of 200 mrem/hr on a package transported on an open exclusive-use transport vehicle, as has been the practice and interpretation of most shippers in the past.
- 5. Q. If "packages," such as secondary <u>inner</u> drums, (as contrasted to a simple personnel barrier as discussed in Q.4 above), are enclosed within an outer shield, may this shield be considered to be an integral part of the "closed transport vehicle" when such a shield provides attenuation of the vehicle radiation levels to meet the 200 mrem/hr limit of §173.393(j)(2)? Further, what other considerations are there in such a situation in determining what constitutes the "package" as opposed to the "vehicle"?
  - A. This question of defining what constitutes the "package" has arisen frequently and has created much confusion. Generally speaking, the criteria to be considered, which are illustrated in Appendix B, include the following factors:

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- Whether or not any single <u>inner</u> container, e.g., drum has a radiation level of less than 1 rem/hr at 3 feet [§173.393(j)(1)]
- Whether or not <u>any single</u> inner container, if bearing LSA material, has a quantity of radioactivity exceeding Type A [\$10 CFR 71.7(b), 71.11(b)(1), 71.12(b) and 71.35].

Given the above considerations and the DOT definitions of "closed transport vehicle" [§173.389(q)] and "packaging" (§171.8), each inner drum within an outer shield integrally attached to the vehicle may be considered a <u>"package"</u> provided that each inner drum complies with §173.393(j)(1), (1 rem/hr at 3 ft) and also provided that the content within any single inner drum does not exceed a Type A quantity of LSA material. In this configuration, the outer enclosure may be considered as the closed transport vehicle and may incorporate integral shielding to meet the vehicle limit of §173.393(j)(2) (200 mrem/hr). The inner drums would be <u>marked</u> as packages and the outer enclosure placarded as a vehicle.

- 6. Q. In contrast, under what circumstances would the outer enclosure <u>plus</u> its secondary inner containers, taken together, be considered as the "package"?
  - A. The combination of inner containers plus the outer shield are considered the "package" if any single inner container has a quantity of radioactivity as LSA exceeding Type A or if any single inner container exceeds the limit of §173.393(j)(1) [1 rem/hr at 3 ft]. Such "packages" must be certified as Type A by the NRC Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards.

No written response to this notice is required. If you need additional information regarding this subject, contact the Regional Administrator of the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

Attachments:

- 1. Appendices A and B
- 2. Recently issued IE Information Notice



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## What comprises the package?

#### **PERTINENT CONSIDERATIONS:**

- o The Definition of a "closed transport vohiclo"-see 49 CFR 173.305kg)
- 49 CFR 171.8 Defines packaging such that you must consider the .::.aisembly of one or more containers and any other components cacessary to achieve compliance with the minimum packaging requirements.!!.
- The VRC general license requirements of \$10 CFR 71,7(b) , 71.11(b)(1), 71.12(b), and 71.35 require that any "package" used to ship LSA in quantity exceeding Type A must be designed to withstand standards for normal conditions of transport



## <u>IF</u>

- radiation level at 3' form any secondary inner "package" dccs not exceed 1 rom/hr [Sos 173.593[][1]; and
- radiation level at exterior surface of outer enclosure does not exceed 202 mrem/hr (See 173.302())(2); and
- Activity content within any single secondary inner "package" does not exceed a Type A quantity os LSA;

#### THEN

- Each secondary inner container is marked us a "packaga"
- The <u>exterior</u> of the exter enclosure is <u>placerded</u> as a vehicle

#### IF

- radiation level at 3' from any single inner container exceeds 1 rom/hr [See 173.393(])(1); or
- Activity content within any single inner container exceeds a Typo A quantity as LSA;

#### THEN

- The exterior of the outer enclosure is marked as a"package"
- The entire assembly must be certified by NRC as Type A, if LSA material is involved.

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Attachment 2 IN 80-32, Rev. 1 February 12, 1982

## RECENTLY ISSUED IE INFORMATION NOTICES

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Information		Date of	
Notice No.	Subject	Issue	Issued to
82-02	Westinghouse NBFD Relay Failures in Reactor Protection Systems at Certain Nuclear Power Plants	01/27/82	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP
82-01	Auxiliary Feedwater Pump Lockout Resulting from Westinghouse W-2 Switch Circuit Modification	01/22/82	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP
81-39	EPA Crosscheck Program - Low Level Radioiodine in Water Test Program	12/23/81	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP
81-38	Potentially Significant Equipment Failures Resulting from Contamination of Air- Operated Systems	12/16/81	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP
81-37	Unnecessary Radiation Exposure to the Public and Workers During Events Involving Thickness and Level Measuring Devices	12/15/81	All power reactor facilities holding byproduct material licenses
81-36	Replacement Diaphragms for Robertshaw Valve (Model No. VC-210)	12/3/81	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP
81-35	Check Valve Failures	12/2/81	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP
81-34	Accidental Actuation of Prompt Public Notification System	11/16/81	All power reactor facilities holding an OL or CP

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OL = Operating License CP = Construction Permit Recently issued IE Information Notice will be included when IN No. and issued date are assigned.