March 29, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: Larry W. Camper, Director
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

FROM: Margaret M. Doane, Deputy Director ***/RA/***
Office of International Programs

SUBJECT: PROPOSED IMPORT OF RADIOACTIVE MIXED WASTE FROM MEXICO (APPLICATION NO. IW016)

OIP requests your assistance to perform a technical review of the enclosed application documents from Eastern Technologies, Inc., (ETI), for a license to import Class A radioactive waste from Mexico's Laguna Verde Nuclear Power Plant. Specifically, we need your assessment of whether the description of the proposed imports and related activities is sufficient to make a determination that issuing the import license would not constitute an unreasonable risk to the public health and safety. ETI launders and decontaminates protective clothing and related products used at many nuclear power plants in the United States pursuant to a license issued by the State of Alabama, and wishes to provide the same services to operators of the Laguna Verde Plant.

The protective clothing and related products to be imported will be contaminated with corrosion activation products and mixed fission products, predominantly Co-60, Co-58 and Mn-54. These radioactive contaminants are typically in the form of small, solid particulate metal oxides. ETI would like to provide two types of protective clothing and associated processing services: 1) conventional laundry processing to return decontaminated clothing to Mexico for reuse; and 2) dissolving and disposing of single-use clothing.

OIP requested assistance from the U.S. Department of State (DOS) to notify the Government of Mexico regarding the ETI import license request and to obtain any comments that the Mexican Government might have in the context of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on Radioactive Waste Management. OIP also requested DOS views as to whether the subject import will be consistent with the Convention's guidelines. OIP will also provide this same information to officials in the States of Alabama (where ETI is located and licensed to provide the services described) and Utah (where ETI's secondary waste will likely be disposed) and request any comments they might have regarding the proposed import.

CONTACT: Janice Owens, OIP
301-415-3684

I would greatly appreciate receiving a response by April 15, 2006, as to whether issuance of the proposed import license is recommended and would not constitute an unreasonable risk to public health and safety. If you cannot complete a review and provide such a recommendation by that date or determine that additional information is needed from the applicant, please contact me at 301-415-1780 or Ms. Janice Owens at 301-415-3684 at your earliest convenience.

Enclosures: Ltrs. Dtd. 2/3/06 and 11/7/05
IW016 - Mexico
Docket Number 11005602

cc w/attachments:

J. Schlueter, OSTP	R. Virgilio, OSTP	S. Flanders, NMSS
R. Whited, NMSS	J. Kennedy, NMSS	D. Cool, NMSS
G. Kim, OGC	P. Tana, NSIR	

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ACCESSION NUMBER: ML060880350
*previously concurred
X Publicly Available ☐ Non-Publicly Available ☐ Sensitive **XX** Non-Sensitive

OFFICE	OIP		OIP		OIP/DD	
NAME	J Owens*		S. Dembek*		M. Doane*	
DATE	3/28/06		03/29/06		03/29/06	

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