



Science Advancing Health

June 24, 2008

Ms. Margaret M. Doane
Director, Office of International Programs
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North Bldg.
11555 Rockville Pike
Room 04 D2
Rockville, MD 20852-2738
USA

Dear Ms. Doane:

**Subject: Yearly Status Report to the USNRC on the LEU Target Conversion Program
for the MAPLE Reactors**

I am writing to you regarding the above report that has been previously submitted to the USNRC in accordance with Condition 10 of Export License XSNM03060.

It had been the past practice of MDS Nordion to prepare the Yearly Status report, in collaboration with Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) and submit it to the USNRC. Although we are not the licensee on the Export License, we had taken the obligation to do this as initially MDS Nordion was to be the owner of the MAPLE reactors and New Processing Facility, or the Dedicated Isotope Facilities (DIF). In February 2006 ownership of the DIF was transferred to AECL, along with the MAPLE HEU target inventory. In early 2006 MDS Nordion and AECL were still establishing our realigned roles and responsibilities. MDS Nordion agreed to submit the 2006 Yearly Status report. In 2007, the year of expiry on the license, MDS Nordion further agreed to submit the 2007 Yearly Status report to ensure consistency of approach for the last year of the Export License. To the best of our knowledge, MDS Nordion understands that the previous USNRC license to export HEU to Canada for the MAPLE reactors has expired.

Furthermore, in view of the announcement that AECL made on May 16 of its intention to discontinue development of the MAPLE reactors, AECL will be in the best position to advise you on the merits of submitting Yearly Status reports for 2008 and subsequent years.

We have informed AECL that it would be appropriate for them to take on this responsibility. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grant Malkoske'.

Grant Malkoske
Vice President
Strategic Technologies

Copies to:
Richard Coté, AECL
Jean-Pierre Labrie, AECL
Richard Stratford, US State Department
Stephen Dembek, US NRC
Jill Chitra, MDS Nordion

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