



## United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 19, 2008

Ms. Margaret M. Doane  
Director, International Programs  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Maryland

Dear Ms. Doane:

I refer to the request from your office dated September 18, 2008 for the views of the Executive Branch as to whether the issuance of an export license in accordance with the application hereinafter described meets the applicable criteria of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (Atomic Energy Act):

PXB112.00 -- Thermo Gamma Metrics LLC (TGM) of San Diego, California proposes to export to Iraq two californium-252 (Cf-252) sealed sources for use by the Bazian Cement Company Ltd. for an on-line analyzer which is already installed at the plant. The analyzer identifies elements in the cement mixture by neutron production of gamma radiation which is read by an analyzer and interpreted by software installed in workstation monitors. Each source contains 19 micrograms of Cf-252 with a total activity level of 0.000867 Terabequerels (TBq), well below the 0.2 TBq level for Category 2 transfers. The sources will be shipped directly to the Bazian Cement Plant by TGM and installed in the analyzer by trained TGM personnel. The access door to the sources is always locked to prevent unauthorized entry. Depleted sources are returned to TGM. A Kurdistan, Iraq, Regional Government import certificate was also included in the application.

It is the judgment of the Executive Branch that the proposed export will not be inimical to the common defense and security of the United States, and is consistent with the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act, provided that the conditions described above are applied.

On the basis of the foregoing, the Executive Branch recommends approval of the requested license subject to the above-mentioned proviso.

Sincerely,

Richard J. K. Stratford

Director

Nuclear Energy, Safety and Security Affairs