

Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration Service Center P.O. Box 5400 Albuquerque, NM 87185



September 16, 2010

Document Control Desk
Director, Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Sir:

This letter is in regards to Docket No. 71-0361. The purpose of this letter is to submit National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) responses to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) review questions on the PAT-1 Package Safety Analysis Report (SAR) Addendum provided in Mr. Brenner's letter of March 1, 2010.

The NNSA responses to the NRC review questions are contained in the enclosed *PAT-1 Safety Analysis Report Addendum Author Responses to Request for Additional Information* dated September 2010. Also enclosed is a copy of *PAT-1 Safety Analysis Report Addendum*, Revision 1 which reflects the changes made in response to the NRC review questions. The SAR Addendum supplements the *Safety Analysis Report for the Plutonium Air Transportation Package, Model PAT-1, NUREG-0361* in support of NNSA's application for revision to Certificate of Compliance (CoC) No. 0361 for the Model No. PAT-1 package.

The NNSA is responsible for the safe, secure and expeditious transportation of materials of national security interest in support of U.S. nuclear weapons and nonproliferation programs. A PAT-1 package certified by the NRC for the air transport of plutonium metal will provide NNSA the operational capability it needs to meet it national security responsibilities. Therefore, NNSA requests that NRC perform an expeditious review of the enclosed documents, and requests a revised CoC by early January 2011.

If you have any questions, please contact me as your single point of contact at (505) 845-5902.

Sincerely,

Maximo A. Barela

Package Certification Engineer

NNSA SC Packaging Certification Division

Varimo A Darela

NMS501

Enclosures:

PAT-1 Safety Analysis Report Addendum, Revision 1, September 2010

PAT-1 Safety Analysis Report Addendum Author Responses to Request for Additional Information dated September 2010

cc w/o enclosure:

Christopher Staab, NRC/SFST, MS: EBB-3D-02M Ahmad Al-Daouk, SC OTS/NSD J. McLaughlin, SC OTS/NSD/PCD Paul Mann, NA-172.1 David Miller, SNL, Org. 6765, MS: 0718 Richard Yoshimura, SNL, Org. 6765, MS: 0718