

Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology

4800 Oak Grove Drive
Pasadena, California 91109-8099



Mr. Pierre Saverot
Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Dear Mr. Saverot,

The Radiation Effects Group at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory uses a Co-60 irradiator containing 26,000 Ci of Co-60. This irradiator, supplied by J.L Shepherd and Associates (model 81-260), is used for the characterization and lot acceptance testing of electronic parts and materials to be used in NASA and Military space systems.

In order to meet our irradiation requirements this system requires periodic reloading with Co-60, an operation which is performed by J.L Shepherd and Associates, the only entity licensed to perform this service. Any delay in our ability to perform required radiation testing can result in significant impacts to our ability to meet project schedules.

We hereby request that Special Permit SP 14766 granted to J.L Shepherd and Associates be extended until their new B(U) 650 package is approved and available for use so that our irradiator may be reloaded in a timely manner such that our radiation test operations are not impacted.

Since the quantity of Co-60 in our irradiator requires intermediate shipment of the Co-60 sources using the GE 1500 container it would be helpful if the GE Authorization for Limited Shipments using the 1500 package would be extended to the same date as well.

We greatly appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven S. McClure'.

Steven S. McClure
Radiation Effects Group
Electronic Parts Engineering
Jet Propulsion Laboratory
4800 Oak Grove Dr.
Pasadena, CA 91009