



**Department of Energy**  
Washington, DC 20585

July 23, 2013

Attention: Document Control Desk  
Michelle Sampson  
Branch Chief  
Licensing Branch  
Division of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation,  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Michelle Sampson:

The Department of Energy (DOE) Packaging Certification Program (PCP) requests a revision to the Certificate of Compliance (CoC) for the ATR Fresh Fuel Shipping Container (ATR FFSC) package, USNRC Docket No. 71-9330, for the transport of Design Demonstration Elements (DDE) or similar test elements and fuel plates.

DDEs (including loose plates) are currently defined in Revision 5 of the CoC. However, not all elements or loose plates which fit the description of a DDE are specifically designated as a DDE. Even though they meet the description of the DDE as given in the CoC, they may have other names or designations. To ensure that all payloads in the ATR FFSC fully meet the strict interpretation of the CoC, DOE requests that the CoC be amended to expand the definition of a DDE to include similar test elements or fuel plates. The added designation does not change any characteristics of the DDE payload already defined. The DDEs and similar test elements and fuel plates must meet the existing radiological and physical description in Revision 5 of the CoC for DDEs.

Specifically, DOE requests the following changes to Revision 5 of the ATR FFSC CoC (changes in bold type):

Section 5.(b)(1), page 3, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph, change to read:

Small Quantity Payloads (RINSC fuel elements, ATR Full-size plate in Flux trap Position (AFIP) elements, U-Mo foils, Design Demonstration Elements (DDEs) **and similar test elements**, MIT loose fuel element plates, or MURR loose fuel element plates)...

Section 5.(b)(1), page 4, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph, change to read:

**DDEs and similar test elements:** The DDEs **and similar test elements** are composed of uranium molybdenum alloy in an aluminum-silicon matrix or uranium molybdenum alloy. The uranium is enriched to a maximum of 94 weight percent U-235. The

maximum mass of U-235 is 365 grams. Loose plates from a DDE or **similar test element** are also permitted. The DDEs **or similar test elements** must be contained within the Small Quantity Payload Fuel Handling Enclosure, as specified in 5.(a)(3).

Due to the minor nature of this change, the DOE is suggesting that the CoC be amended without an amendment to the Safety Analysis Report (SAR). If an amended SAR is required, please notify the DOE as soon as possible.

Electronic copies of this letter have been sent to you and to Allen (Chris) Williams of your staff. Please provide a copy of this letter to NRC Document Control.

If you have any questions or need more details please call at 301-903-5513 or [james.shuler@em.doe.gov](mailto:james.shuler@em.doe.gov).

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James M. Shuler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

James M. Shuler  
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