

June 23, 2017

The Honorable Brian Higgins  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Higgins:

I am writing on behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in response to your letter dated May 5, 2017, regarding your opposition to UniTech Service Group, Inc's (UniTech) application to export low-level radioactive waste from nuclear power to Canada. In your letter, you raise concerns about the transportation of low-level waste through your district, and the potential transportation risks posed by radioactive material shipments between the United States and Canada.

About 3 million packages of radioactive materials are shipped each year in the United States, either by highway, rail, air, or water. Regulating the safety of these shipments is the joint responsibility of the NRC and the U.S. Department of Transportation. The NRC establishes requirements for the design and manufacturing of packages for radioactive materials under Title 10, Energy, of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations. U.S. Department of Transportation regulates the shipments while they are in transit, and sets standards for labeling and smaller quantity packages under Title 49, Transportation, of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations. Therefore, specific concerns about the transport of radioactive material or radioactive waste, discussed in the Unitech export application by highway, rail, air, or water, should be directed to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Hazardous Materials Information Center at 1-800-467-4922, or via e-mail at [phmsa.hm-infocenter@dot.gov](mailto:phmsa.hm-infocenter@dot.gov).

Currently, the NRC is conducting its review of the export license application, and I want to assure you that the Commission takes into account all views, as well as relevant legal and regulatory requirements before we decide whether to issue an export license.

Thank you very much for your interest and comments on this export application.

Sincerely,

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David L. Skeen, Deputy Director  
Office of International Programs

B. Higgins

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SUBJECT: LETTER TO HONORABLE BRIAN HIGGINS RE: UNITECH SERVICE GROUP,  
INC.'S (UNITECH) APPLICATION FOR EXPORT OF LOW-LEVEL WASTE TO  
CANADA. DATED: JUNE 23, 2017

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