



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 6, 2018

Mr. Robin DeLaBarre
Office of Nuclear Energy,
Safety & Security Affairs, Room 3320 HST
Bureau of International Security
& Nonproliferation
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. DeLaBarre:

Enclosed is an application (XMAT444), dated January 18, 2018, received by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), from Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated, for the export of 5000 kilograms of deuterium to Esteve Química, S.A. in Spain. Vertex plans to utilize the deuterium compounds to manufacture active pharmaceutical ingredients for use in clinical trials on treatments of cystic fibrosis.

In accordance with our mutual understandings documented in August 2016, "Processing applications for licenses for exports of deuterium," we would appreciate receiving your judgement as to whether:

- The facts of the proposed export are consistent with non-nuclear end use;
- The Executive Branch does not see a need for assurances from the recipient government; and
- The proposed export would not be inimical to the common defense and security of the United States.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janice E. Owens".

Janice E. Owens, Acting Chief
Export Controls and Nonproliferation Branch
Office of International Programs

Enclosure:
Export License Application

cc w/enclosure:

K. Strangis, DOE/NNSA
J. Norles, DOE/NNSA
M. Shoemaker, NRC/NMSS
J. Semones, DHS/CBP

S. Aguilar, NRC/NMSS
M. Chen, DOE/NNSA
P. Dessaulles, DOE/NMSS

R. Bennett, DHS/CBP
S. Clagett, DOC
E. Sauls, DTRA