

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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BUREAU OF OCEANS AND INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRSOFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

JUL 1 9 1979

XSNM01483 11000542

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Mr. James R. Shea Director of International Programs United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Room 6714 - MNBB Bethesda, Maryland

Dear Mr. Shea:

This letter is in response to the Commission's letters dated March 26 and June 28, 1979, requesting Executive Branch views as to whether issuance of an export license in accordance with the application hereinafter described would be inimical to the common defense and security of the United States and whether the proposed export meets the applicable criteria of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended by the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978:

NRC No. XSNM01483 -- Application by Transnuclear Inc. for authorization to export to the Federal Republic of Germany 6.827 kilograns of U-235 contained in 15.038 kilograms of uranium enriched to a maximum of 45.4 percent, and 6.105 kilograms of U-235 contained in 30.075 kilograms of uranium enriched to a maximum of 20.3 percent. This enriched uranium in the form of UF6 will be shipped to NUKEM GmbH, Hanau, FRG for conversion and fabrication of prototype high-density, lower enrichment MTR-type fuel elements and plates. The fuel elements, each containing from 150 to 500 grams of U-235, are intended for testing in the following research reactors: ASTRA, Austria; IEAR-1, Brazil; DR-3, Denmark; GRR-1, Greece; Petten HFR, Netherlands; R-2, Studsvik, Sweden; SAPHIR, Wurenlingen, Switzerland; TR-1, Cekmeee, Turkey; RV-1, Venezuela; and FRJ-1, FRG-2 and FRMB, FRG.

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The proposed export to the FRG as intermediate consignee would take place pursuant to the Additional Agreement for Cooperation Between the United States and the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM) as confirmed in a letter from the Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities, EURATOM has adhered to the provisions of its Agreement for Cooperation with the United States.

Re-export of the fabricated fuel elements to countries outside of the European Community would be subject to Department of Energy authorization as subsequent arrangements.

The Executive Branch has reviewed this application and concluded that the requirements of the Atomic Energy Act, as amended, have been met and that the proposed export to the FRG, a member of the European 7.0mic Energy Community (EURATOM), for conversion and faurication of fuel elements and plates will not be inimical to the common defense and security of the United States. A detailed analysis for EURATOM was submitted December 8, 1978 for NRC license application Nos. XSNM 1241, 1238, 1232 and 1212. There has been no material change in circumstances since that submission.

On the basis of the foregoing, the Executive Branch recommends that the license for export to the Federal Republic of Germany, and re-export within the European Community, be issued.

Sincerely,

Sun 1 Vasen Louis V. Nosenzo

Deputy Assistant Secretary

Enclosure: Assurance letter

DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

EURATOM SUPPLY AGENCY

April 3, 1979 JM/AKS

Mr. Vance H. Hudgins Assistant Director for Politico-Military Security Affairs Division of International Security Affairs Department of Energy Washington, D. C. 20545

Subject: XSNM-1483 - Transnuclear, Inc.'s application dated March 21, 1979; material for West Germany.

Dear Mr. Hudgins:

We certify that the material mentioned in this application, namely 45.113 kg U containing 12.932 kg of U-235, and the transfer of this material will be subject to all terms and conditions of the Additional Agreement for Cooperation, dated July 25, 1960, as amended.

Further, we certify that Transnuklear GmbH, Hanau, West Germany, as intermediate consignee, and Nukem GmbH, Hanau, West Germany as ultimate consignee, are authorized by Euratom to receive and possess this material pursuant +o the aforementioned Agreement for Cooperation.

The material will be used for the development and fabrication of high density fuels in a first set of prototype (MTR) fuel elements.

Sincerely, Uniched July M. Goppel

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cc: Mr. Robert DeLabarre, State Department Ms. Vicki Matson, Transnuclear, Inc. Mrs. Betty Wright, NRC

2100 M Street NW Suite 707 Washington DC 20037 / telephone: (202) 862-9500 / telex: Washington WU 89539 (EURCOM WSH)