

UNCLASSIFIED

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM  
5649

## Department of State

PAGE 01  
ACTION OES-09

CANBER 05150 021853Z

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ADS-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-15  
 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-02 DODE-00 H-02  
 DOE-17 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PM-05 SAS-02 DOEE-00  
 /121 W

-----086929 022046Z /64

P 270453Z MAY 80  
 FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9560  
 INFO AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS CANBERRA 5150

E. O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, NRC, AS, US

SUBJ: APPLICATION FOR NRC APPROVAL FOR EXPORTATION OF IN-CORE  
 FISSION CHAMBER FROM U.S. TO AUSTRALIA

1. WESTINGHOUSE AUSTRALIA HAS ASKED FOR EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN DETERMINING STATUS OF APPLICATION TO U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR EXPORTATION TO AUSTRALIA OF ONE WESTINGHOUSE IN-CORE FISSION CHAMBER, TYPE WL-23978A, CONTAINING 0.001 GRAMS OF U308, ENRICHED TO 93 PERCENT U235. FISSION CHAMBER IS FOR USE OF UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES IN TEST REACTOR LOCATED AT LUCAS HEIGHTS, NEW SOUTH WALES. ACCORDING TO WESTINGHOUSE REP, NRC HAD ORIGINALLY DEFERRED ACTING ON APPLICATION WHICH APPARENTLY DID NOT CONTAIN SUFFICIENT GUARANTEES FROM GOA REGARDING ANY RE-EXPORT OF THE FISSION CHAMBER FROM AUSTRALIA. EMBOFF SPOKE WITH AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL WHO CONFIRMED STATEMENT BY WESTINGHOUSE REP THAT THE NECESSARY ASSURANCES WERE SUBSEQUENTLY PROVIDED BY THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON OR ABOUT MAY 9.

2. WESTINGHOUSE REP NOTED THAT TIMELY RECEIPT OF NRC EXPORT APPROVAL IS VERY IMPORTANT SINCE THE LUCAS HEIGHTS REACTOR WILL BE SHUT DOWN FOR REFUELING IN MID-JUNE AND THE UNIVERSITY WOULD LIKE TO INSERT THE FISSION CHAMBER AT THAT TIME.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ASSISTANCE BY THE DEPARTMENT OR THE NRC IN EXPEDITING THE EXPORT APPROVAL OF THE FISSION CHAMBER. PLEASE ADVISE.  
 ALSTON

POOR ORIGINAL

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