

QUESTION 4:

The NRC staff memo indicates that "there are no present NRC requirements for safeguarding tritium." If this is the case, how could NRC be confident that "existing U.S. Government export control measures are adequate"--as NRC told me earlier this year?

ANSWER:

There are no domestic safeguards requirements applicable to tritium. NRC does require that tritium exports be controlled in accordance with conditions in the licenses. Control measures for tritium exports include review of proposed destination and end use, stipulations that material only be used for stated purposes, restrictions on the quantity of tritium per shipment and total quantity shipped per year, and requirements for retransfer approval. Taken in conjunction with control requirements imposed in recipient countries principally for health and safety reasons, we believe these measures are adequate to ensure that tritium is appropriately controlled.

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