

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION I

631 PARK AVENUE KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

September 12, 1980

Docket No. 50-193

Rhode Island Atomic Energy Commission

ATTN: Dr. A. Francis DiMeglio

Director

Nuclear Science Center

South Ferry Road

Narragansett, Rhode Island 02882

Gentlemen:

The enclosed IE Information Notice No. 80-32, "Clarification of Certain Requirements for Exclusive-use Shipments of Radioactive Materials," is forwarded to you for information. No written response is required. If you desire additional information regarding this matter, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Boyce H. Grier

Director

Enclosures:

1. IE Information Notice No. 80-32

2. List of Recently Issued IE Information Notices

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(215-337-5217)

cc w/encls: Professor G. Seidel, Commissioner, RIAEC Dr. H. Grimmel, Commissioner, RIAEC Rev. W. Murtaugh, O.P., Commissioner, RIAEC John Pascalides, Commissioner, RIAEC

SSINS: 6370 Accession No.: 8006190044 IN 80-32

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

August 29, 1980

IE Information Notice No. 80-32: CLARIFICATION OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR EXCLUSIVE-USE SHIPMENTS OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

Background

In mid-1979 the NRC initiated an enhanced program for inspection of shipments of radioactive materials, including, in particular, low level wastes. In conjunction with this effort, civil penalties have been assessed for violation of associated regulatory requirements. IE Bulletins 79-19 and 79-20, "Packaging of Low Level Radioactive Waste for Transport and Burial," issued August 8, 1979 and IE Information Notice 79-21, "Transportation and Commercial Burial of Radioactive Material," issued September 7 1979, provide background in this regard.

During the past year, this augmented inspection/enforcement program has prompted a number of questions on the proper application of certain regulatory requirements. These questions involve mainly the problems and deficiencies associated with exclusive use highway shipments of low-level radioactive wastes. The purpose of this Notice is to discuss the questions and clarify the applicability of certain requirements.

Application of 49 CFR 173.393(i) and (j)

Numerous questions involve the application of the limits of radiation levels of exclusive use shipments as prescribed in 49 CFR 173.393(j). As stated therein, the regulation reads

(j) Packages for which the radiation dose rate exceeds the limits specified in paragraph (i) of this section, but does not exceed at any time during transportation any of the limits specified in paragraphs (j)(1) through (4) of this section may be transported in a transport vehicle which has been consigned as exclusive use (except aircraft). Specific instructions for maintenance of the exclusive use (sole use) shipment controls must be provided by the shipper to the carrier. Such instructions must be included with the shipping paper information:

(1) 1,000 millirem per hour at 3 feet from the external surface of the package (closed

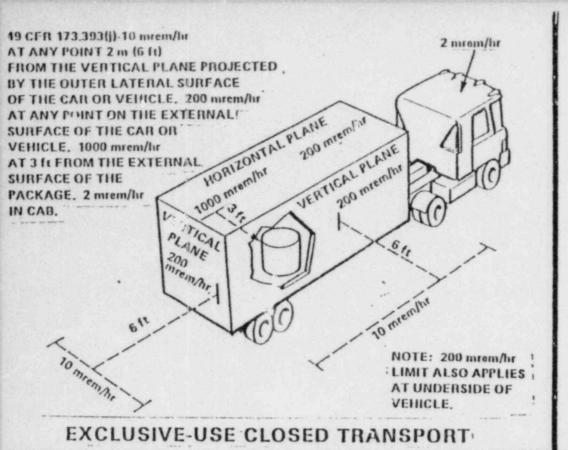
(2) 200 millirem per ha the car or vehicle

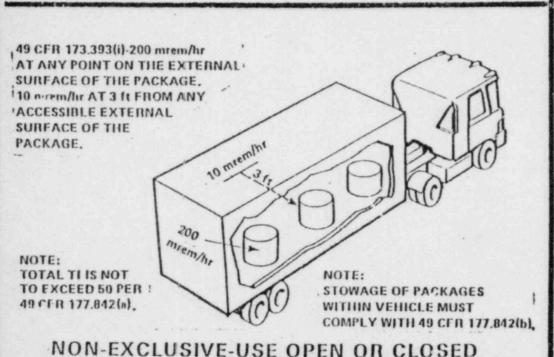
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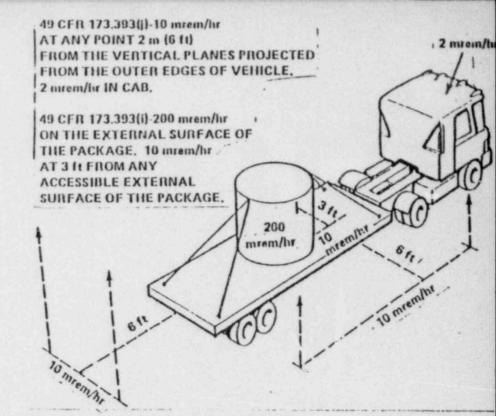
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EXCLUSIVE-USE OPEN TRANSPORT

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IE INFORMATION NOTICE 80-32

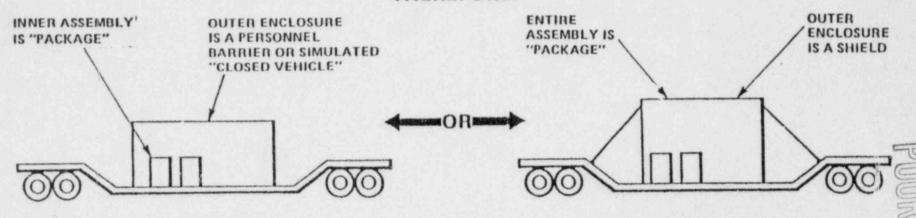
RADIATION LIMITS

49 CFR 173.393(i) AND (j)

WHAT COMPRISES THE PACKAGE?

49 CFR 171.8 DEFINES PACKAGING SUCH THAT YOU MUST CONSIDER THE
"... ASSEMBLY OF ONE OR MORE CONTAINERS AND ANY OTHER COMPONENTS
NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE WITH THE MINIMUM PACKAGING
REQUIREMENTS..."

THEREFORE:



IN THIS SCENARIO, THE INNER
PACKAGINGS MAY BE CONSIDERED
TO BE THE "PACKAGE", PROVIDED
THE OUTER ENCLOSURE IS NOT
NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE
WITH THE RADIATION LEVEL LIMIT
OF 173.393(j)(2); i.e., 200 mrem/hr.
LEVEL OF RADIATION ON EACH INNER
"PACKAGE" MAY NOT EXCEED 1 rem/hr AT j
3 ft FROM ITS SURFACE.

IN THIS SCENARIO, THE
ENTIRE ASSEMBLY (OUTER SHIELD
PLUS INNER PACKAGINGS) MUST
BE CONSIDERED AS THE "PACKAGE",
SINCE THE OUTER SHIELD IS
NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE
WITH 173.393(j)(2). RADIATION
LEVEL AT SURFACE OF "INNER"
PACKAGINGS IS NOT LIMITED.

RECENTLY ISSUED IE INFORMATION NOTICES

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued to
80-31	Maloperation of Gould- Brown Boveri 480V-Type K-600S and K-DON 600S Circuit Breakers	8/27/80	All holders of a power reactor OL or CP
80-30	Potential for Unaccept- able Interaction Between the Control Rod Drive Scram Function and Non-essential Control Air at Certain BWR Facilities	8/27/80	All holders of a BWR power reactor OL or CP
80-29	Broken Studs on Terry Turbine Steam Inlet Flange	8/7/80	All holders of a power reactor OL or CP
Supplement to 80-06	Notification of Significant Events at Operating Power Reactor Facilities	7/29/80	All holders of a power reactor OL and near term OL applicants
80-28	Prompt Reporting of Required Information To NRC	6/13/80	All applicants for and holders of a power reactor construction permit
80-27	Degradation of Reactor Coolant Pump Studs	6/11/80	All holders of a pressurized water power reactor OL or CP
80-26	Evaluation of Contractor QA Programs	6/10/80	All holders of a Part 50 License
80-25	Transportation of Pyrophoric Uranium	5/30/30	Material Licensees in Priority/Categories II-A, II-D, III-I and IV-DI; Agreement State Licensees in equivalent categories