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

OCT 14 1980



FCTC:RHO
71-6058

Nuclear Engineering Company, Inc.
ATTN: Mr. T. S. Baer
P.O. Box 7246
Louisville, KY 40207

Gentlemen:

This is in regard to your letter dated May 30, 1980, concerning the Model No. B-3 shipping package.

The previous package approval had permitted packages equivalent to DOT Specification 17H steel drums. This "equivalent" criterion was open to a variety of interpretations and disagreements between licensees and NRC. At the time the package was renewed, the "equivalent" was deleted to eliminate these problem areas. This change does not preclude a licensee from requesting an inner container differing from the DOT Specification 17H. The adequacy of any proposed inner container should be addressed in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR Part 71.

With regard to replacing the O-ring at least every 12 months, this is a judgement decision which does not appear to be unreasonable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles E. MacDonald".

Charles E. MacDonald, Chief
Transportation Certification Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle and
Material Safety

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