

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

X5Nm0 1809 1100 2448

Washington, D.C. 20520 BUREAU OF OCEANS AND INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

May 19, 1981

Mr. James B. Devine Office of International Programs Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Devine:

I request that you modify NRC export license number Amena, XSNM01809 in the following manner:

Total contained U235: from 7 grams to 500 grams

Total Uranium: from 221 grams to 20,000 grams

Expiration date: from 1 May 1982 to 1 May 1984

The reason for this request is that the initial license was based on estimates of the amount of material contained in the safeguards samples taken at Exxon by the IAEA during their first ad hoc inspection. It also assumed that a general license could be issued to the IAEA quickly. It turns out that the initial estimate of total uranium was low although the contained U235 estimate was accurate. These samples have not been shipped as yet because of the underestimate. In addition, a second inspection at Exxon this week by the IAFA has led to additional safeguards samples being taken. Also the process of arriving at interagency agreement on the form of a general emport license for IAEA safeguards samples has taken longer than was hoped.

In order to meet our obligations under the US/IAEA Safeguards Agreement in the near term both sets of safeguards samples must be shipped to Vienna immediately. This requires Ament the export license to be modified to include at least 10 grams Request of contained 11235 in 300 grams total uranium. If it is not possible to make the suggested changes in a few days, this No. of smaller change can be used as a stop gap measure. However, the more significant modification will ensure that we will not be required to go through this procedure again if more time is

required to issue the general license.

John P. Boright Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary

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