

DEC 19 1989

XSNM02494
11004238

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Governmental and Public Affairs
International Programs
ATTN: R. Neal Moore
Senior Licensing Officer
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

NRC EXPORT LICENSE APPLICATION - INMITS FOREIGN CONTRACT NUMBER WC-EU--309

The enclosed Application for License to Export Nuclear Material and Equipment (NRC Form 7) is submitted for authorization to export residual accountable nuclear materials contained in vitrified high-level material encapsulated in 32 stainless steel canisters as heat and radiation sources. A total of about 41 grams of plutonium is dispersed in and immobilized by the borosilicate glass matrix. Detectable amounts of americium-241 and uranium-235 are also present, but in total quantities of only about one-tenth of a gram each.

The export will be a government-to-government shipment to West Germany (Euratom) under a project agreement between the Department of Energy and the Federal Minister for Research and Technology of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMFT). A copy of the Project Agreement, Methods of Treatment for Immobilization of High-Level Radioactive Waste, with amendments, is attached to the license application form. The joint project agreement was entered into as provided for by Article 4 of the DOE-BMFT Technical Exchange and Cooperative Arrangement in the Field of Management of Radioactive Wastes, of December 20, 1974, as amended March 19, 1980.

The Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) is responsible for supplying a licensed shipping cask and making transportation arrangements. Title to the heat and radiation sources containing the residual nuclear materials will transfer from DOE to FRG FOB Richland, Washington, upon shipment from DOE's Pacific Northwest Laboratory located at the Hanford site.

The DOE Richland Operations Office coordinator for export authorization is Rhoda E. Roesch, on my staff (FTS 444-7964). We request that the NRC Export License be mailed to the following address:

U.S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
ATTN: R. E. Roesch, A6-55
P.O. Box 550
Richland, WA 99352

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The presence of measurable quantities of SNM in the vitrified heat and radiation sources was recently identified. We will appreciate any help NRC can provide to expedite processing of the export license application, so that shipment may proceed as soon as the cask to be supplied by FRG becomes available.

Sincerely,


J. R. Hunter, Director
Operations Division

OPD:RER

Enclosure
NRC Form 7 w/attach

cc w/encl:
→ R. N. Moore, GPA/IP, NRC
T. A. Hart, IE-13, DOE
H. F. Walter, EM-30, DOE