



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Pipeline and  
Hazardous Materials  
Safety Administration**

East Building, PHH-23  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

June 3, 2021

Director, Division of Fuel Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
11545 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Docket No.: 71-3088

Dear DFM Director,

In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between our agencies, I request your assistance in evaluating the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) request that the pre-shipment leakage test condition be removed from DOT's Competent Authority Certificate (USA/0808/B(U)F-96) for the CASTOR THTR/AVR package as recommended by your office.

By letter dated March 11, 2015, I requested your office's assistance in evaluating the Model No. CASTOR THTR/AVR package, authorized by the German Certificate of Approval No. D/4214/B(U)F-96, and requested you make a recommendation concerning our revalidation of the package for import and export use. By letter dated January 11, 2017, your office provided a Safety Evaluation Report (Docket No. 71-3088, CAC No. A33010) recommending revalidation with the following conditions:

- Condition No. 1: Packages must be transported as exclusive use.
- Condition No. 2: The pre-shipment leakage test at  $10^{-7}$  ref  $\text{cm}^3/\text{sec}$  (air) must include the cask body as well as the seal regions.

I incorporated your conditions into the USA/0808/B(U)F-96 certificate, issued February 17, 2017.

DOE now requests removal of the pre-shipment leakage test condition from our approval. DOE intends to use this package to support shipments from Germany to the Savannah River Site (SRS) to repatriate HEU material. A schedule for those shipments has not been set yet.

The documents with the technical justification for this request have been provided electronically to Mr. Pierre Saverot of your staff. Some of the files are marked proprietary, with an affidavit provided, and non-proprietary versions have been provided for those.

If you have any questions or need any additional safety information, please feel free to contact Michael Conroy of my staff at (202) 366-3597 or via email at [Michael.Conroy@dot.gov](mailto:Michael.Conroy@dot.gov).

Sincerely,

Richard W. Boyle,  
Radioactive Materials/ Research & Development  
Division of Sciences, Engineering and Research  
Office of Hazardous Materials Safety

Enclosures