



**Department of Energy**  
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2021

Mr. John McKirgan, Chief  
Storage and Transportation Licensing Branch  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
Two White Flint North – Mail Stop 4 B34  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Dear John McKirgan:

The US Department of Energy (DOE) is in the process of updating Package Identification No. USA/5797/B(U)F to the “-96” requirements in accordance with §71.19(d). DOE’s current plan is to submit an amendment (“-96” update) and renewal request to NRC no later than September 30, 2022, and prior to expiration of Certificate of Compliance No 5797 (October 31, 2022) for this package design. This letter is DOE’s request for NRC to review and comment on the test plan for the -96 upgrade. The tests are currently planned for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of FY22, so DOE is requesting NRC review and comment by December 31, 2021.

Enclosure 1 is the test plan and Enclosure 2 is the basis for the test orientations and conditions (i.e., Reference 2 of the test plan).

If you have any questions or need more details please call at 301-903-5513 or james.shuler@em.doe.gov.

Dr. James M. Shuler  
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Office of Packaging and Transportation  
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Enclosures:

- (1) *Test Plan for Normal Conditions of Transport and Hypothetical Accident Condition Tests, Oak Ridge National Laboratory Package Design USA/5797/B(U)F-96, ORNL/RRD/INT-173, Rev. 1, August 2021*
- (2) *Test Plan for Normal Conditions of Transport and Hypothetical Accident Condition Tests, Oak Ridge National Laboratory Package Design USA/5797/B(U)F-96: Bases for Selecting Tests, Orientations, and Test Conditions, ORNL/RRD/INT-174, Rev. 0, September 2021*

CC: ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Director, Division of Spent Fuel Management  
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