

June 29, 2022

Director Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs U.S. Nuclear Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

RE: Annual Record and Report of Transfer for 2021

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To whom it may concern, This annual report is being filed for the following Licensee:

Champion Aerospace, LLC 1230 Old Norris Road Liberty, SC 29657

NRC Materials License No. 39-23825-01E SC DHEC Radioactive Material License No. 505

Champion Aerospace manufactures ignition exciters, some of which contain a small amount of radioactive Tritium gas in the high voltage switching component referred to in this document as a "Spark Gap". Spark gaps have been used in turbine engine ignition systems on aircraft since the 1940s. They are a simple and reliable high voltage switch. They do require a small dose of radioactive gas in their construction. The fundamental issue is that a radioactive isotope is required to maintain a consistent spark gap ionization voltage over the unit's operating life. Without the small amount of tritium gas in the spark gap, the ionization voltage of the gap can vary significantly over time and result in a potential decrease in the delivered energy of the exciter. There is no alternative material that Champion can propose for use in our spark gaps that is more benign than Tritium. Currently Champion produces six different spark gaps and transfer these in either top level exciters or as spare parts. The part numbers are as follows:

307083, 307083-1, 307083-2, 307083-3, 307226, 307532 and 307535

Champion currently purchases the Tritium gas from a commercial supplier of the material. That manufacturer is Canadian Nuclear Laboratories in Chalk River, Ontario Canada. Their contact information is listed below for future reference:

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (Formerly AECL) 286 Plant Road Chalk River, Ontario K0J 1J0 Phone: (613) 584-3311

All of the spark gaps listed in this report were transferred for use under 10 CFR 30.15 (a)(8)(i) and are listed by year, part number, quantity transferred, and total micro-curies transferred. See attachments.

1230 Old Norris Rd • Liberty, SC • 26957

If there are any questions concerning this report please contact me at 864-843-5387.

Sincerely,

Donnie Smith

Radiation Safety Officer Facility Manager Champion Aerospace, LLC

cc: Scott Wilson Health Physicist Division of Nuclear Materials Safety Division I scott.wilson@nrc.gov

Enclosures

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## Tritium Dose/Gap **Total Tritium Transferred** Spark Gap Part Number **# Transferred** μ Curie μ Curie 307083 739 28 20692 307083-1 140 28 3920 307083-2 1279 28 35812 307083-3 200 28 5600 307226 90 5.9 531 307532 4296.4 934 4.6 307535 259 28 7252 Totals 78103.4 3641

## 2021 Total Tritium Transferred