



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 17, 1999

Mr. Robin DeLaBarre
Non-Proliferation/Nuclear Energy Affairs (NP/NEA)
Department of State
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. DeLaBarre:

Enclosed is an application for a license (XSOU8777), recently received by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, for the export of 1,610.0 kilograms of natural uranium and 2,125.0 kilograms of thorium, as contaminants in 500,000.0 kilograms of tantalite ore, to the People's Republic of China for recovery of the tantalum for production of potassium tantalum fluoride for sale to Cabot Corporation. This is a non-nuclear end use.

Before taking action on this request, we would appreciate your views, in accordance with established procedures and from the overall perspective of the Executive Branch, as to whether the requested export meets the applicable criteria in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ronald D. Hauber".

Ronald D. Hauber, Deputy Director
Office of International Programs

Enclosure: Appl. Dtd. 12/02/99
(XSOU8777-People's Republic of China)

cc w/enclosure: M. Krupa, DOE
C. Riendeau, DOE
W. Witter, DOD
S. Clagett, DOC

DF03.

PDR EXPORT XSOU 8777