



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 22, 1999

MEMORANDUM TO: John T. Greeves, Director
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguard

FROM: Ronald D. Hauber, Deputy Director *R Hauber*
Office of International Programs

SUBJECT: PROPOSED EXPORT OF IRRADIATED ZIRCONIUM SCRAP FROM
WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CANADA (APPLICATION
XW003)

Attached is an application (XW003) from Westinghouse Electric Company, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania for the export of 100,000 pounds of zirconium scrap which is contaminated with uranium dioxide. Your advice and assistance in the review of the application would be appreciated.

The zirconium was originally in the form of fuel rods and filled with uranium dioxide pellets; the pellets were removed from the rods and reintroduced into the fuel fabrication process and the rods, which were contaminated with uranium residue, were cut into smaller pieces and crushed flat for shipment from the Westinghouse fuel fabrication facility in Columbia, South Carolina to Mississauga Metals & Alloys, Inc., in Brampton, Ontario, Canada.

Mississauga originally had planned to introduce the zirconium scrap into the steel making process without removing the uranium residue, and, on September 7, 1999 Westinghouse submitted an application for a license to export, over a six-year period, up to a total of 20.0 kilograms of uranium containing up to 1.0 kilogram of uranium-235 (maximum enrichment of five percent). Subsequently, Westinghouse was notified that Mississauga planned to remove and dispose of most of the uranium; therefore, they amended their application to reflect the export of radioactive waste. A copy of the September 7 application (XSNM03103) is attached for your information.

The scrap will be transported by SGT-2000 Trucking Company from Columbia, SC via Ft. Eire at the U.S. and Canadian border and then on to Mississauga in Brampton, Ontario, Canada.

In a letter dated November 23, 1999, the Department of State advised that the transfer of the waste would appear to meet the Code of Practice for exports of nuclear waste since the Canadian Government authorities have confirmed that they have no objection to the transfer. We are attaching a copy of the DOS letter.

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We would appreciate your review and comments regarding the attached export license application, including the identification of any additional information the applicant should provide to us.

Attachments: 1. Application XW003 dated November 24, 1999
2. Application XSNM03103 dated September 7, 1999
3. Department of State letter dated November 23, 1999

cc: P. Lohaus, OSP