United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Office of Public Affairs Washington, DC 20555 Phone 301-415-8200 Fax 301-415-2234 Internet:opa@nrc.gov

No. 97-123

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Friday, August 15, 1997)

NRC AUTHORIZES UTAH URANIUM MILL TO RECEIVE AND PROCESS MATERIAL FROM PENNSYLVANIA

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has granted a request from International Uranium Corporation to receive and process uranium-bearing material from the Cabot Corporation's facility near Boyertown, Pennsylvania, at International Uranium's NRC-licensed White Mesa uranium mill near Blanding, Utah.

The material, which contains uranium, tantalum and niobium, will be shipped by train and exclusive-use trucks. It is a moist solid, with a weight of approximately 16,000 tons. Cabot is authorized to possess this material under an NRC license. At the mill, the material will be processed to separate the uranium from the tantalum and niobium. The material will be processed primarily for the recovery of uranium.

The NRC has concluded that International Uranium's receipt and processing of the material will not result in any significant increase in the types or amounts of materials that may be released off site, in the occupational radiation exposures, or in the potential for or consequences from radiological accidents.

###