

Official Use Only—Security-Related Information

March 17, 2006

Mr. Steve West, President
MDS Nordion
447 March Road
Kanata, ON K2K 1X8
Canada

SUBJECT: TRANSSHIPMENT SECURITY MEASURES

Dear Mr. West:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am providing the enclosed transshipment security measures [Enclosure] for your review and attention. We understand that MDS Nordion currently transports certain radioactive materials from your facilities in Canada through the United States (U.S.) to third countries or returns such materials from third countries through the U.S. to your facilities in Canada (i.e., transshipments).

In July 2005, the NRC issued Orders and additional security measures (ASMs) to persons in the U.S. who domestically transport, import, or export certain radioactive materials, i.e., the radioactive material quantities of concern (RAMQC) Orders. The RAMQC Orders and ASMs and the enclosed transshipment security measures are similar in many respects, for example, they both use the same radionuclide threshold limits as set forth in the International Atomic Energy Agency's *Code of Conduct for the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources*; however, the enclosed transshipment security measures are not legally binding on you. Nevertheless, the NRC appreciates your voluntary adherence to the various transportation security guidance documents issued by the NRC subsequent to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The enclosed transshipment security measures supersede the transportation security guidance contained in current NRC Safeguards Advisories SA-01-01, Rev. 1, dated December 13, 2001, and SA-03-02, dated April 18, 2003. These enclosed measures apply to transshipments of radioactive material through the U.S. exceeding the threshold limits and occurring via road or rail modes, or through a U.S. seaport. These enclosed measures do not apply to any domestic, import, or export shipments in the U.S. made by MDS Nordion.

Please note that the NRC has designated these transshipment security measures as Official Use Only—Security-Related Information and they should be treated as sensitive, unclassified information. They should be disseminated only to those persons who have a need-to-know. Additionally, these measures may be shared with Canadian law enforcement and government officials, as necessary, and may also be shared with appropriate carrier personnel engaged in transshipping any cargo through the U.S.

Upon Removal of the Enclosure, this Document is DECONTROLLED

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S. West

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Mr. Philip Brochman of my staff has spoken with Mr. Marc-André Charette of your staff on this matter. If you have any further questions, please contact Ms. Adelaide Ginatelli at (301) 415-3521, Email: ASG2@nrc.gov or Mr. Oleg Bukharin (301)-415-3551, Email: OAB@nrc.gov, of my staff.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Roy P. Zimmerman, Director
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

Enclosure:
Transshipment Security Measures

cc w/encl:
Ed Martell, MDS Nordion
Grant Malkoske, MDS Nordion
Larry Chamney, CNSC, Ottawa, Canada
Pierre Dube, CNSC, Ottawa, Canada
Patty Kim-Scott, American Embassy, Ottawa, Canada
Richard Rosenman, American Embassy, Ottawa, Canada

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Pierre Dube, CNSC, Ottawa, Canada
Patty Kim-Scott, American Embassy, Ottawa, Canada
Richard Rosenman, American Embassy, Ottawa, Canada

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