

September 2, 2011

Mr. Gary W. Butner
Radiologic Health Branch
State of California
California Department of Public Health
P.O. Box 997414, MS 7610
Sacramento, CA 95899-7414

Dear Mr. Butner:

SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR NRC IMPORT LICENSE (IW030)

Enclosed for your consideration is an application dated August 1, 2011 (Enclosure 1), from GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy, LLC requesting a license (IW030) to import up to 210 used Cobalt-60 radioactive sealed sources from China. We are sending analogous letters to Ms. Susan Jablonski (State of Texas), Mr. Michael Ford (Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission), and Ms. Kathy Davis (Southwestern Low-Level Radioactive Waste Commission), for their respective consideration.

The latest import application (IW030) was forwarded to the U.S. Department of State (DOS) on August 16, 2011, for assistance in notifying Chinese Government authorities of the proposed radioactive waste import. NRC also requested DOS's views as to whether approving the application would be consistent with the guidelines of the Joint Convention of the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and Safety of Radioactive Waste Management.

NRC published a Federal Register notice regarding the import license application on August 30, 2011 (Enclosure 2). GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy, LLC (Vallecitos Nuclear Center) will use their California license to recycle the sources to the extent possible, perform forensic testing and store the remainder for waste disposition (potentially at Waste Control Specialists LLC in Texas).

It would be greatly appreciated if within three weeks of the date of this letter, you could respond with any comments you may have concerning the import license application (IW030) or if necessary, provide an estimate of how much additional time may be required to complete your review and provide a written response to NRC.

G. Butner

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We welcome your response by e-mail or telefax, and request that you refer to NRC license application IW030 in your response. As the NRC's point of contact for this matter, my e-mail address is Janice.Owens@nrc.gov and my telefax number is (301) 415-2395. If you respond by e-mail, please copy your response to Ms. Jenny Tobin Wollenweber at Jennifer.Tobin@nrc.gov. Should you have questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me at (301) 415-3684 or Ms. Wollenweber at (301) 415-2328.

Sincerely,

/RA by Stephen C. Baker for/

Janice Owens, Branch Chief
Export Controls and International Organizations
Office of International Programs

Enclosures:

1. Application Dated 08/01/11
IW030 - China
Docket Number 11005957
2. Federal Register Notice

cc w/enclosures:

G. Kim, NRC/OGC

J. Kennedy, NRC/FSME

G. Butner

-2-

We welcome your response by e-mail or telefax, and request that you refer to NRC license application IW030 in your response. As the NRC's point of contact for this matter, my e-mail address is Janice.Owens@nrc.gov and my telefax number is (301) 415-2395. If you respond by e-mail, please copy your response to Ms. Jenny Tobin Wollenweber at Jennifer.Tobin@nrc.gov. Should you have questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me at (301) 415-3684 or Ms. Wollenweber at (301) 415-2328.

Sincerely,

/RA by Stephen C. Baker for/

Janice Owens, Branch Chief
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1. Application Dated 08/01/11
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Enclosure 2: ML1124A202

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