



National Institutes of Health  
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

[www.nih.gov](http://www.nih.gov)

## Memorandum

**Date:** May 29, 2012  
**From:** Irradiator Security Manager, DRS, NIH  
**Subject:** J.L. Shepherd Proposed B(U)650 Transportation Container  
**To:** Mr. Pierre Saverot, NRC

Dear Mr. Saverot,

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) possesses multiple Co-60 and Cs-137 sealed source irradiators which may require transport for relocation or disposal, and the Co-60 irradiators may require reloading. Several of these irradiators are manufactured by J.L. Shepherd and Associates, and as such, it is critically important that this company have a means to be able to service our source transportation needs as they arise.

The irradiators are used to support a wide variety of basic research, translational, and clinical research needs, and their ready availability is crucial for biomedical research at the NIH.

We support the request, made by J.L. Shepherd and Associates, that Special Permit SP 14766 be extended until their new B(U) 650 transportation package is approved and available, so that NIH irradiators may be relocated, disposed, and/or reloaded on a timely schedule. In this way, NIH research needs will be met and the availability of any required irradiator will not be compromised.

Since J.L. Shepherd and Associates also relies upon the use and availability of the GE 1500 Type B container, it would also be helpful if the GE authorization for Limited Shipments using the 1500 package is extended to the same date. Our hope is that J.L. Shepherd will, at all times, have available an approved Type B container to use for Co-60 and Cs-137 source transports in support of the needs of our irradiator program.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 301-496-5774 or via email at [cribaudo@nih.gov](mailto:cribaudo@nih.gov). Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Catherine Ribaudo  
Irradiator Security Manager  
Division of Radiation Safety  
National Institutes of Health  
Bethesda, MD 20892-6780