

40-3366
LRL:NU

JUN 18 1959

Postoria Glass Company
Moundsville, West Virginia

Attention: Mr. A. E. Williams

Gentlemen:

Being aware of your interest in the use of uranium in ceramics and glassware, we would like to advise you that new data has become available to the Commission indicating that if ceramic tile glazed with uranium or uranium-colored glassware were distributed to the public in sufficient quantities, the sum total of radiation which persons might receive might exceed the maximum permissible limits set forth in Part 20, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations "Standards for Protection Against Radiation". Accordingly, in the interest of public health and safety, source material licenses are not now being issued to the ceramic and glass industries except for the manufacture of:

1. Glazed ceramic tableware, the glaze containing not more than 20% uranium.
2. Ornamental glassware containing not more than 10% uranium.

No licenses permitting the manufacture for distribution to the public of uranium-containing ceramic tile or other ceramics, or glass blocks used in construction such as in walls, tabletops or partitions, are being issued. Licenses previously issued which might be deemed to authorize manufacture of ceramic tile or glass for construction are being amended to restrict use to the applicable items above. Your license does not appear to require amendment.

The Commission is not licensing the manufacture of uranium-containing ceramic tile or glass brick for distribution to the public. However, licenses have been issued authorizing companies to produce these products solely for the purpose of obtaining experimental data regarding the radiation levels associated therewith. Such items may not be transferred to unlicensed persons. We hope that in the near future we will have sufficient new data for determining under what conditions, if any, public distribution of glazed tiles, glass blocks and similar items may be licensed.

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Chief, Licensing Branch

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