



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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Memorandum to the Files

STAFF FINDINGS RELATED TO THE PROPOSED IMPORT OF 500 KILOGRAMS URANIUM CONTAINING 22.75 KILOGRAMS U-235 FROM ITALY (ISNM780013)

On August 10, 1978 Westinghouse Electric Corporation requested authorization to import 500 kilograms of uranium containing 22.75 kilograms of U-235 as UO<sub>2</sub> pellets and chips from Italy. The material will be shipped to the Westinghouse facility in Columbia, South Carolina for dissolution and use in further fabrication. There is no intent to reexport the material.

The material will be packaged in Westinghouse model BB 250-2 containers bearing Certificate of Competent Authority Number USA/5768/BF Rev. 1, and shipped to the U.S. by ocean carrier. It will be trucked to Columbia from the port of entry.

The uranium is in a nonvolatile, noncorrosive form and any release of the contents of the packages would be restricted by the limited mobile inventory of available material. The hazards related to the possible rupture of the containers are limited principally to chemical toxicity rather than radiological toxicity and can be handled safely in essentially the same manner as any other corrosive or toxic chemical.

The physical security requirements of 10 CFR Part 73 are not applicable to the shipment because low enriched uranium is specifically exempted by paragraph 73.6(a).

The proposed import is similar to that previously authorized under import license XSNM-1732 and conforms with the standard provisions that have governed shipments of such materials for a number of years without significant impact on the environment and the public. Accordingly, it is found that neither a negative declaration nor an environmental impact assessment is required in support of the issuance of this license. Further, the staff finds this importation will not be inimical to the common defense and security or constitute an undue risk to public health, safety, and to the environment.

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