



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Research and
Special Programs
Administration**

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

MAR 13 2001

Reference No.: 00-0304

Dr. M. E. Darrough
Director, Transportation Programs
United States Enrichment Corporation
6903 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20817-1818

Dear Dr. Darrough:

This is in response to your letter and telephone conversation with Dr. Fred Ferate, Radioactive Materials Branch, Office of Hazardous Materials Technology, concerning the term "return to service" as used in 49 CFR 173.443(c).

As you were informed by Dr. Ferate, as used in § 173.443(c), the term "return to service" refers to the point at which a trailer or railcar used to transport a Class 7 exclusive use shipment is determined by the offeror to satisfy the prescribed contamination control limits and is released from exclusive use status and placed back in transportation for general use.

I hope this satisfies your request.

Sincerely,

Hattie L. Mitchell
Chief, Regulatory Review and Reinvention
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards



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173.443



October 25, 2000

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§ 173.443(c)
RAM
00-0304

Edward Mazzullo, Director
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards
U. S. Department of Transportation
Room 8422
400 Seventh Street, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20590-0001

Dear Mr. Mazullo:

This letter is written to request that the U. S. Department of Transportation (DOT) issue a written clarification of 49 CFR 173.443 (c), regarding "Contamination Control" and the specific term "*return to service*." The United States Enrichment Corporation was given an oral interpretation of this regulation during an October 24, 2000 telephone conversation with Dr. Fred Ferate, technical support staff of DOT's Radioactive Materials Branch, Research and Special Programs Administration. Dr. Ferate indicated that "*return to service*" refers to the point at which a trailer or railcar is released from exclusive use status and is being returned to the vendor for general use. USEC concurs with this interpretation.

We are requesting a written clarification for our records for future reference. If there are questions concerning this matter, please contact me at (301) 564-3422 or USEC's Traffic Manager, Mr. Don McCarty at (740) 897-2668.

Sincerely,

M. Elizabeth Darrough, Ph.D.
Director, Transportation Programs

cc:

J. Adkins
R. Boyle, DOT
F. Ferate, DOT
L. Krause
D. McCarthy, PORTS
S. Penrod, PGDP

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