

DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL

Dubai, 31 March to 4 April 2003

Agenda Item 2 Development of recommendations for amendments to the Technical : Instructions for incorporation in the 2005/2006 edition

CLASSIFICATION OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

(Presented by P. Steele)

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Parts 2; 7.1.2 and 2; 7.1.2. (c) of the Technical Instructions in effect state that radioactive material in consumer products that have received regulatory approval, and have been sold to the end user, are not included in Class 7 for the purpose of the Instructions. This is the same as clause 107(d) of the IAEA TS-R-1.

1.2 Our authority is investigating an incident, reported to us by another State, involving a shipment of Class 7 consigned from Australia last year. The consignment was badly documented and badly packed; sufficiently so to warrant prosecution of the consignor and his agent. However, during the investigation it was found the bulk of radioactive material (90%) was in household smoke detectors that had time-expired and were being sent overseas for extraction of the source, with the remainder of the consignment being sources that had already been removed from used household smoke detectors. These detectors had received regulatory approval from the relevant Australian Competent Authority, and had been sold to their end users. In view of this, and the Technical Instruction entry, the legal advice received was that no offence had been committed - there were in effect no requirements in the Technical Instructions for the consignment of these goods.

2. PROPOSAL

2.1 The Panel is invited to consider if the Instructions, and therefore TS-R-1, may be deficient in this area. If so it is recommended IAEA be approached with a view to amending Clause 107, with a consequential amendment to the Instructions.

— END —

