

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



March 9, 2020

Reply to Attn of:

TO: Program Executive
Imaging X-Ray Polarimetry Explorer
Science Mission Directorate

FROM: Safety and Assurance Requirements Division
Nuclear Flight Safety Assurance Manager

SUBJECT: Launch Approval Requirements for Radioactive Materials Contained within the
Imaging X-Ray Polarimetry Explorer Project Payload

Thank you for your timely notification of the intended launch of a Falcon 9 launch vehicle from the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in April 2021 containing approximately 24.6 GBq of Iron-55. The A2 value, as defined in the International Atomic Energy Agency's *Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material*, is 0.0006 and falls below the threshold for the NPR 8715.3, *NASA General Safety Requirements*, reporting requirement to the Office of Science and Technology Policy ($A2 < 0.001$).

Based on the information you have provided and our review of conformance with Chapter Six of NPR 8715.3, this office does not object to the launch of this material. Please inform me if there are any changes in materials or quantities prior to launch. Additionally, please ensure that any facilities that will process or house these materials are notified prior to arrival of the materials onsite per local regulations.

If you have any questions concerning nuclear launch approval, please reach me at (202) 358-0704 or by e-mail at matthew.j.forsbacka@nasa.gov.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew J. Forsbacka".

Matthew J. Forsbacka, Ph.D.

cc:

Office of Safety and Mission Assurance/Dr. Frank Groen

Ms. Deidre Healey

Office of Mission Support Directorate/Ms. Tina Norwood

Office of International and Interagency Relations/Mr. Kevin Conole

Office of Chief Health and Medical Officer/Dr. Angel Plaza

KSC-GSE/Mr. Kurt Geber