(1) The minimum ratio of the number of hydrogen atoms to the number of atoms of fissile radionuclides (H/X) is 5200;

(2) The maximum concentration of fissile radionuclides is 5 g per liter; and

(3) The maximum mass of fissile radionuclides in the package is 500 g, except that for a mixture in which the total mass of plutonium and uranium-233 does not exceed 1% of the mass of uranium-235, the limit is 800 g of uranium-235. If the material is transported in bulk, the quantity limitations apply to the conveyance.

(c) A package containing uranium enriched in uranium-235 to a maximum of 1% by mass, and mixed with a total plutonium and uranium-233 content of up to 1% of the mass of uranium-235, if the fissile radionuclides are distributed homogeneously throughout the package contents, and do not form a lattice arrangement within the package.

(d) A package containing not more than 5 g of fissile radionuclides in any 10 L volume, provided that the material is contained in packages that will maintain the limitation on fissile radionuclide distribution during normal conditions of transport.

(e) A package containing 1 kg or less of plutonium of which 20% or less by mass may consist of plutonium-239, plutonium-241, or any combination of those radionuclides.

(f) A package containing liquid solutions of uranyl nitrate enriched in uranium-235 to a maximum of 2% by mass, with total plutonium and uranium-233 content not exceeding 0.1% of the mass of uranium-235 with a nitrogen-to-uranium atomic ratio (N/U) of 2.

[Amdt. 173–244, 60 FR 50307, Sept. 28, 1995, as amended by Amdt. 173–248, 61 FR 18933, Apr. 29, 1996; 66 FR 45380, 45383, Aug. 28, 2001]

§ 173.457 Transportation of fissile material, controlled shipments—specific requirements.

Shipments of fissile material packages that have been assigned a transport index of greater than 10 for criticality control purposes in accordance with 10 CFR 71.59 must meet the requirements of this section and § 173.441(a) or (b).

(a) For fissile material, controlled shipments, the offeror or carrier, as appropriate, must incorporate transportation controls which:

(1) Provide nuclear criticality safety;

(2) Protect against loading, storing, or transporting that shipment with any other fissile material; and

(3) Include in the shipping papers the description required by § 172.203(d) of this subchapter.

(b) Fissile material, controlled shipments must be transported:

(1) In an exclusive use conveyance;

(2) Except for shipments by aircraft, in a conveyance with an escort having the capability, equipment, authority, and instructions to provide administrative controls necessary to assure compliance with this section;

(3) In a conveyance containing no other packages of any Class 7 (radioactive) material required to bear one of the labels prescribed in § 172.403 of this subchapter. Specific arrangements must be made between the offeror and the carrier, with instructions to that effect issued with the shipping papers; or

(4) Under any other procedure approved by the Associate Administrator in accordance with part 107 of this subchapter.

[Amdt. 173–244, 60 FR 50307, Sept. 28, 1995, as amended by 66 FR 45379, Aug. 28, 2001]

§ 173.459 Mixing of fissile material packages.

(a) Mixing of fissile material packages with other types of Class 7 (radioactive) materials is authorized only if the transport index of any single package does not exceed 10 and the total transport index in any conveyance or storage location does not exceed 50.

(b) Fissile packages may be shipped with an external radiation level greater than 0.1 mSv/hr (10 mrem per hour) at 1 m (3.3 feet), and combined with other packages of the same or different designs in a fissile material, controlled shipment, under the conditions prescribed in § 173.457, if:

(1) Each package in the shipment has been assigned a transport index for criticality control purposes in accordance with the 10 CFR 71.59;

(2) The nuclear criticality control transport index does not exceed 10 for any single package;

(3) The total nuclear criticality control transport index does not exceed 100 for all packages in the shipment; and

(4) Except as provided in §176.704(e) of this subchapter, the shipment is not transported by vessel.

(c) A fissile material, controlled shipment of packages may be combined with other packages of the same or different design when each package has been assigned a nuclear criticality control transport index in accordance with 10 CFR 71.59, and may be combined with other fissile packages into a fissile material, controlled shipment under the conditions prescribed in §173.457, if:

(1) The nuclear criticality control transport index which has been assigned in the package approval does not exceed 50 for any single package;

(2) The total nuclear criticality control transport index for all packages in the shipment does not exceed 100; and

(3) Except as provided in §176.704(e) of this subchapter, the shipment is not transported by vessel.

[Amdt. 173–244, 60 FR 50307, Sept. 28, 1995, as amended at 66 FR 45380, Aug. 28, 2001]

§173.461 Demonstration of compliance with tests.

(a) Compliance with the design requirements in §173.412 and the test requirements in §§173.465 through 173.469 must be shown by any of the methods prescribed in this paragraph, or by a combination of these methods appropriate for the particular feature being evaluated:

(1) Performance of tests with prototypes or samples of the specimens representing LSA-III, special form Class 7 (radioactive) material, or packaging, in which case the contents of the packaging for the test must simulate as closely as practicable the expected range of physical properties of the radioactive contents or packaging to be tested, must be prepared as normally presented for transport. The use of non-radioactive substitute contents is encouraged provided that the results of the testing take into account the radioactive characteristics of the contents for which the package is being tested;

(2) Reference to a previous, satisfactory demonstration of compliance of a sufficiently similar nature;

(3) Performance of tests with models of appropriate scale incorporating those features that are significant with respect to the item under investigation, when engineering experience has shown results of those tests to be suitable for design purposes. When a scale model is used, the need for adjusting certain test parameters, such as the penetrator diameter or the compressive load, must be taken into account; or

(4) Calculations or reasoned evaluation, using reliable and conservative procedures and parameters.

(b) With respect to the initial conditions for the tests under §§173.465 through 173.469, except for the water immersion tests, compliance must be based upon the assumption that the package is in equilibrium at an ambient temperature of 38 °C (100 °F).

[Amdt. 173–244, 60 FR 50307, Sept. 28, 1995, as amended by 63 FR 52850, Oct. 1, 1998]

§173.462 Preparation of specimens for testing.

(a) Each specimen (i.e., sample, prototype or scale model) must be examined before testing to identify and record faults or damage, including:

(1) Divergence from the specifications or drawings;

(2) Defects in construction;

(3) Corrosion or other deterioration; and

(4) Distortion of features.

(b) Any deviation found under paragraph (a) of this section from the specified design must be corrected or appropriately taken into account in the subsequent evaluation.

(c) The containment system of the packaging must be clearly specified.

(d) The external features of the specimen must be clearly identified so that reference may be made to any part of it.

§173.465 Type A packaging tests.

(a) The packaging, with contents, must be capable of withstanding the water spray, free drop, stacking and penetration tests prescribed in this section. One prototype may be used for all