

## **9. Transport Regulations.**

With the spent fuel placed in the transport flasks and ready to be dispatched to Sellafield, the regulations governing the transport then come into play. There are a bewildering range of rules and regulations which are outlined briefly below.

The principal Regulators are the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) who, in 1959 were charged by the UN Economic and Social Council with drafting recommendations on the transport of radioactive substances. In 1961 the IAEA published the **IAEA Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Materials**, with **Safety Series 6** becoming established as the regulatory bible for all such transports. These regulations have been adopted by the United Nations and are incorporated into the regulatory texts of organisations concerned with international transports and into the national regulations of numerous countries. They are periodically revised to take account of technical advances, operational experience, radiation exposure to the public and transport workers.

In the UK, the ultimate responsibility for the safety of radioactive materials in transit lies with the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and Regions who appoints a Government Materials Transport Radiological Advisor who heads the Radioactive Materials Transport Division, Department of Transport which is designated as the 'Competent Authority' in the UK. The Competent Authority is responsible, amongst other things, for ensuring compliance with the regulations, the inspection of transport operations and the auditing of radioactive material transporters – design, manufacture and operation.

For Rail transports in the UK, the principal regulations are contained in:

**British Rail publication BR 22426 (1990) List of Dangerous Goods (LDG) and Conditions of Acceptance by Rail on Freight Train and Parcel Services – Class 7 Radioactive Goods.**

For Road transports, where spent fuel is transported from the power station to the nearest railhead, there are a number of regulations, the principle regulation being:

**The Radioactive Material (Road Transport) (Great Britain) Regulations 1996.**

International regulations governing transports by road, rail and air in Europe include:

**Convention concerning the International Carriage by Rail (COTIF) Appendix B**

**Uniform Rules concerning the International Carriage of Goods by Rail (CIM) Annex 1**

**Regulations concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID) Class 7**