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NRC Authorizes American Centrifuge Plant to Begin High-Assay Low-Enriched Uranium Demonstration Project

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has authorized American Centrifuge Operating LLC to start up high-assay low-enriched uranium enrichment operations at the American Centrifuge Plant in Piketon, Ohio. This is the first step in demonstrating the production of HALEU for advanced fuels for the next generation of nuclear reactors.

The authorization allows the facility to enrich limited quantities of uranium in the form of uranium hexafluoride. The plant will need additional NRC inspections and authorization before further increasing the production of HALEU.

The ACP is currently the only facility licensed by the NRC to produce HALEU in the United States.

“This authorization ensures the American Centrifuge Plant adheres to the NRC’s safety and regulatory guidelines,” said NRC Region II Administrator Laura A. Dudes. “Authorizing the demonstration project moves the country closer to developing HALEU-based fuels for advanced reactors.”

The NRC's authorization was issued following operational readiness inspections of the 16-centrifuge cascade, which were conducted to confirm that the facility had been constructed and will be operated safely and securely. Details of the inspections and the final authorization [letter](#) are available on the NRC website.