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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
(Tuesday, December 29, 1992)

NRC STAFF DIRECTS GENERAL ATOMICS AND SEQUOYAH FUELS  
TO SUPPLY INFORMATION ON DECOMMISSIONING

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has directed General Atomics and Sequoyah Fuels Corporation (GA-SFC) to provide detailed information on their plans for and funding of decommissioning their uranium conversion facility at Gore, Oklahoma.

Specifically, on or before February 16, 1993, GA-SFC are to:

(1) submit a plan, including a schedule, for decontaminating and decommissioning the Gore facility, including soil, buildings and groundwater so that it can be released for unrestricted use in accordance with the criteria set forth in the staff's letter; and

(2) submit a decommissioning funding plan that contains a cost estimate for decommissioning and a description of the method of assuring funds for decommissioning that meets the requirements contained in Part 40 of the NRC's regulations.

The staff's action was taken in light of:

(1) a letter dated November 23, 1992, from SFC informing the Commission that it intends to "clean out" its uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>) operation at Gore and to put it in a standby mode and that it intends to restart its depleted uranium (DUF<sub>4</sub>) operation in order to fulfill one existing contract. In addition, the Commission was advised that an unexecuted agreement between SFC and GA regarding financial assurances for decommissioning is "no longer applicable"; and

(2) a public meeting of the Commission on December 21, 1992, during which General Atomics Chairman J. Neal Blue advised the Commission that GA could no longer provide financial assurance of funding for decommissioning because the commitment to do so was premised on license renewal and long-term operation of the Gore facility.

The commitment to supply funding in order to assure that SFC will satisfy its obligations to provide financial assurance of funding for decommissioning was made by Mr. Blue in a public meeting of the Commission on March 17, 1992, and confirmed in a letter dated March 19.

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