

June 12, 2002

MEMORANDUM TO: Martin J. Virgilio, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: Ashok C. Thadani, Director/**RA**/
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: USER NEED REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE TO REVIEW GAS
CENTRIFUGE ENRICHMENT FACILITY LICENSE
APPLICATIONS (NMSS-2002-003)

In your May 3, 2002, memorandum on this subject, you requested the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) to provide technical support in the review of the license application by Urenco for a commercial-scale enrichment facility, and applications by U.S. Enrichment Corporation (USEC) for a lead cascade facility and for a commercial-scale enrichment facility. Your request included technical assistance in the areas of instrumentation and controls, human factors, seismic hazards, tornado hazard, and structural design. Based on an evaluation of your request and the schedule, we have determined that RES can support your request, assuming resources can be reprioritized to support the schedule.

The first part of the review, the acceptance review of applicable sections of the applications will be performed without technical contract support. The remaining tasks (review of applicable sections of the applications for construction, review of applicable sections of the Environmental Report, technical project management of Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analysis (CNWRA) in the areas of seismic hazard, liquefaction-slope stability, tornado hazard and structural analysis, and preparation of draft and final applicable sections of the Safety Evaluation Reports) can be completed on schedule provided the needed contract with CNWRA is in place and fully funded prior to NRC receipt of the submittals.

As outlined in the attachment to your request, significant resources will be needed to support this effort. RES is not currently budgeted for this assistance program. In the event of a hearing, significant additional resources will be required. RES is also not currently budgeted for these additional resources. As part of the RES ongoing add/shed process, this high priority item will be added and the following items will be changed in the RES operating plan (Op Plan):

1A1CAC	Investigate the experience and use of requirements specification assessment method/tools for use with nuclear software systems and develop acceptance criteria for requirements specifications assessments. DELETE
1A1CAF	Complete NUREG on on-line monitoring systems. DELAY from 12/02 to 6/03
1A1GDB	Publish final Reg. Guide on anchorage to concrete. DELAY from 06/03 to 09/03

To support the human factor effort in FY03, 0.3 FTE will be shifted from activity 1A1DEA "Support regulatory oversight process and assist in risk-informing the inspection process. Includes human performance issues and corrective action programs." These resources were planned in anticipation of follow on support for this NRR user need. At this time, it does not appear that the planned level of effort will be required to support this need. The remaining 0.1 FTE will be achieved through synergy with the ongoing MOX review effort.

To support the Seismic, Tornado, and Structural effort in FY03, 0.3 FTE will be shifted from activity 1A1GDB, Regulatory Guide on "Anchoring Components and Structural Supports in Concrete." Publication of this Regulatory Guide will be delayed from 6/03 to 9/03. This user need was requested by NRR and they have no objection to this delay. In addition, the remaining 0.2 FTE will be achieved through synergy with the ongoing MOX review efforts (this work is to be performed by two RES staff members at 0.1 FTE each).

To support the I&C effort in FY03, 0.4 FTE will be shifted from activities 1A1CAC "Provide qualitative tools and assessment methods to ensure the effective review of current applications of digital I&C" and 1A1CAF "Develop and evaluate information on newly emerging digital systems and technology to determine what new regulatory issues will be encountered and what new data and tools will be needed to review these technologies." The scheduled NUREG on on-line monitoring systems will be delayed from 12/02 to 6/03. This user need was requested by NRR and they have no objection to this delay. The remaining 0.1 FTE will be achieved through synergy with the ongoing MOX review effort.

As many of the milestones for this user need are for FY 03 and beyond, we will use the PBPM process to plan, prioritize and budget the work associated with this request. New milestones associated with this user need request will be incorporated into the FY03 Operating Plan.

RES has assigned John Calvert (415-6323, e-mail jac@nrc.gov) to conduct the I&C review, Joel Kramer (415-5891, e-mail jjk1@nrc.gov) to conduct the human factors review and Syed Shaukat (415-6592, e-mail sks1@nrc.gov) to conduct the review in the areas of seismic hazards and tornado hazards and Herman Graves (415-5880, e-mail hlg1@nrc.gov) to conduct the structural design review. Steven Arndt (415-6502, e-mail saa@nrc.gov) has been assigned to coordinate the RES review effort.

Distribution:

J. A. Calvo, (EELB)

E.V. Imbro, (EMEB)

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C. Grimes

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OFFICE	DET	RES	RES		
NAME	M. Mayfield/RA/	J. Strosnider/RA/	A. Thadani/RA/		
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