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October 16, 2002

10/2/02
67FR61932
(13)

HEP: #02-003

Michael Lesar, Chief
Rules Review and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Office of Administration
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-001

Louisiana Energy Services Gas Centrifuge Enrichment Facility
NRC Docket No. 70-3103

Subject: Request for Extension of Public Comment Period

By notice in Volume 67 of the Federal Register(FR), page 61932 (i.e., 67 FR 61932), dated October 2, 2002, the NRC requested comments from the public concerning a number of "white papers" submitted to the NRC by a Louisiana Energy Services (LES) docketed letter dated April 24, 2002. The subject of these papers was subsequently presented to the NRC by LES during a meeting on April 30, 2002 that was open to and attended by members of the public. The 67 FR 61932 notice states that comments are due within 30 days from October 2, 2002. These "white papers" discuss various policy issues concerning the licensing of LES' proposed uranium gas centrifuge enrichment plant to be located near Hartsville, Tennessee, in Trousdale County.

On October 14, 2002, a public information forum sponsored by Trousdale County was held in Hartsville. During this forum, members of the public expressed concern that they had only recently become aware of the proposed siting of the plant near Hartsville and needed more time to properly review the material and formulate any comments.

LES considers that involvement by an informed local community in the licensing process is essential to reaching a fair and understandable final decision. Therefore, we request that the NRC extend the comment period to end 30 days after the public information forum held on October 14, 2002.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 630-657-2813.

Respectfully,

R. M. Krich
Director, Licensing (Acting)

cc: T. C. Johnson, NRC LES Project Manager

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