Honeywell

Specialty Chemicals
Honeywell
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January 20, 2004 UPS: 301-415-8147

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Mail Stop T-8A33, Two White Flint N, 11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Subject: 30 Day written Report to NRC per license requirement for exceeding effluent administration limit associated with the UF_6 release on 12-22-03

Docket No. 40-3392, License No. SUB-526

Honeywell Specialty Materials Metropolis Works (MTW) facility is required to report per the NRC license requirement 4.1.1 if the average air effluent uranium activity concentration exceeds the 3.0 E-14 μCi/ml over a calendar quarter. Although the weekly averages separate from this event are within the requirements, the average result was exceeded when weekly results from a UF_6 release that occurred at the facility on 12-22-03 were incorporated (1.0E-12 μCi/ml.). The average effluent concentration for the last quarter of 2003 is 8.2E-14 μCi/ml. Subsequent samples obtained after the release are back to the normal activity levels, which are well below the administrative limit of 3.0 E-14 μCi/ml. The plant has taken corrective actions to reduce the effluent emissions by securing the release and suspending UF_6 operations until additional corrective actions can be identified and implemented to assure the plant can be operate within it's defined limits.

The plant will not submit to the commission a petition request a variance as allowed for in the operating license since this issue was due to an individual release as opposed to increased average effluent concentration being emitted from the plant. The plant will continue to monitor plant's performance as required by the operating license to assure that any further adverse trends are identified and addressed. For further questions regarding this event please contact Darren Mays (HS&E Manager at 618-524-6396) or Michael Ginzel (Health Physics Supervisor at 618-524-6349) for additional support.

Sincerely,

Rory J. O'Kane
Plant Manager

cc: D. Mays
M. Ginzel

NMSS01

US NRC (UPS: Ph: 301-415-7694)
Attention: John Lusher, Project Manager
Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch, Mail Stop T-8A33
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US NRC (UPS: Ph: 404-562-4731)
Attention: Jay L. Henson, Region II
23 T85, 61 Forsyth Street, SW
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
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