



January 27, 2004
AET 04-0006

Mr. Martin J. Virgilio
Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Attention: Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Intent to Submit a License Application for the American Centrifuge Plant (ACP)

Dear Mr. Virgilio:

The purpose of this letter is to inform the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of USEC Inc.'s (USEC) intent to submit a license application for the American Centrifuge Plant (ACP) in August 2004.

On January 12, 2004, USEC announced its decision to site the ACP in Piketon, Ohio. The ACP will be a uranium enrichment facility, utilizing American Centrifuge technology. The plant will have an annual capacity of 3.5 million SWU. However, since centrifuge technology is highly modular, and USEC envisions the potential for expansion beyond 3.5 million SWU annual capacity, the Environmental Report for the ACP will address the impacts of up to 7 million SWU per year. USEC will request a meeting in early 2004 with the NRC to provide further details regarding the license application and approach. In general, USEC anticipates that there will be several areas where the ACP licensing review will be greatly facilitated by the NRC reviews nearing completion for the License Application for the American Centrifuge Lead Cascade Facility also to be located in Piketon, Ohio.

As the NRC is aware, the ACP is the third and final step in the overall demonstration and deployment plan for American Centrifuge technology. The commercial deployment of the American Centrifuge technology by USEC will help ensure that the United States will continue to maintain a reliable and economic, domestically-controlled supply of enriched uranium for the nuclear industry. The American Centrifuge technology represents advancements to technology developed and demonstrated previously by the U.S. Department of Energy.

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Mr. Martin J. Virgilio
January 27, 2004
AET 04-0006, Page 2

We will contact the NRC shortly regarding a mutually acceptable meeting date to discuss additional details regarding the license application for the ACP. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the Director, Advanced Technology Security and Licensing, Mr. Peter J. Miner, at (301) 564-3470.

Sincerely,

S. A. Toelle

Steven A. Toelle
Director, Nuclear Regulatory Affairs

cc:

R. Pierson, NRC

B. Smith, NRC

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2