Specialty Chemicals

Honeywell Route 45 North P.O. Box 430 Metropolis, IL 62960 618 524-2111 618 524-6239 Fax

March 26, 2004

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Regional Administrator, Region II Sam Nunn Federal Center 61 Forsyth Street SW, Suite 23T85 Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8931 (UPS: 404-562-4731)

Re:

Restart of Ore Preparation Phase of Uranium Hexafluoride Process at Honeywell Metropolis Plant

License No. SUB-526 Docket No. 040-03392

Dear Sirs:

In my letter to the USNRC dated March 4, 2004, we described our plans for a phased approach to restart of the uranium hexafluoride process. We also described the readiness assessment that would be conducted prior to restart of each phase.

We are nearing completion of the readiness assessment process for ore preparation. An in-process audit of closure packages was conducted this week. A Corporate restart assessment has also been completed. As a result of the in-process audit of closure packages, we have confirmed completion of nearly all ore preparation restart items. The open restart items are identified in Attachment 1. We estimate that we will complete the remaining open restart training items on March 27, 2004.

We request NRC concurrence of our readiness to restart the ore preparation phase of the uranium hexafluoride process upon verification by the NRC on-site inspectors that the open ore preparation restart items are complete.

Sincerely,

Rory J. O'Kane Plant Manager

cc: D. Mays

Mr. Jay Henson U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chief Fuel Facility Inspection Branch 2 Division of Fuel Facility Inspection, Region II Sam Nunn Federal Center 61 Forsyth Street SW, Suite 23T85 Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8931

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission Attention: Mr. John Lusher, Project Manager Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch, Mail Stop T-8A33 Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Mr. Douglas Collins US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center 61 Forsyth Street, S. W., Suite 23T85 Atlanta, GA 30303-8931 (UPS: 404-562-4731)

(UPS: 301-415-7694)

(UPS: 404-562-4700)

Attachment 1

Remaining Ore Preparation Restart Items

- 1. Complete On-the-Job Training and Job Performance Measurements
- 2. Update information to indicate all training required for hourly personnel and the status of training
- 3. Complete Qualification Summary Cards
- 4. Complete training of shift personnel with emergency response duties on changes to Emergency Plan, Radiological Plan, and Emergency Plan Implementing Procedures prior to personnel assuming duties (Shift huddles)
- 5. Complete IC/ERO Make-up Training prior to personnel assuming IC/ERO duties
- 6. Complete training for Security Guards on emergency response roles and responsibilities prior to personnel assuming shift duties
- 7. Complete training on dedicated phone line in control room
- 8. Issue a stop work authority procedure