

July 9, 2004

Steven A. Toelle, Director
Nuclear Regulatory Affairs
United States Enrichment Corporation
6903 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20817-1818

Dear Mr. Toelle,

We received your letter of May 25, 2004, concerning our conference call of April 21, 2004. During that conference call we discussed United States Enrichment Corporation's (USEC's) understanding of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) March 17, 2004, letter approving, in part, USEC's response to NRC Bulletin 2003-003, "Potentially Defective 1-inch Valves for Uranium Hexafluoride Cylinders," regarding 1-inch Hunt cylinder valves. By letter dated May 25, 2004, you identified eight separate topics that were clarified during the conference call. The NRC has reviewed the clarifications and approves your proposal. In particular, we note that you may heat and empty cylinders, filled with natural, depleted or enriched uranium, with Hunt valves already installed that have exceeded their five-year hydrostatic test date, as allowed by ANSI N14.1, provided that once empty, no cylinder will be refilled until the Hunt valve is replaced. The NRC also notes that on a rare occasion, USEC may need to sample a 30B cylinder should a problem occur with its associated 1S sample cylinder, without first replacing the Hunt valve. All of the other conditions contained in NRC's March 17, 2004, letter remain in effect.

If you have any questions, please contact William Troskoski, of my staff, at (301) 415-8076.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Robert C. Pierson, Director
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 70-7003

cc: Rick Boyle, DOT

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 United States Enrichment Corporation
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