

September 10, 2004

MEMORANDUM TO: Joseph G. Giitter, Chief
Special Projects Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards

THRU: Brian W. Smith, Chief /RA/
Gas Centrifuge Facility Licensing Section
Special Projects Branch, FCSS

FROM: Timothy C. Johnson, Project Manager /RA/
Gas Centrifuge Facility Licensing Section
Special Projects Branch, FCSS

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 2, 2004, TELEPHONE SUMMARY: LOUISIANA
ENERGY SERVICES REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION

On September 2, 2004, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a telephone conference call with staff from Louisiana Energy Services (LES) to discuss fire safety issues related to the LES uranium enrichment plant proposed to be built in Eunice, New Mexico. I am attaching the telephone summary for your use. The summary contains no proprietary or classified information.

Docket: 70-3103

Attachment: Louisiana Energy Services
Telephone Summary

cc:	William Szymanski/DOE	Claydean Claiborne/Jal	Rod Krich/LES
	Monty Newman/Hobbs	James Curtiss/W&S	Troy Harris/Lovington
	Peter Miner/USEC	Betty Richman/Tatum	James Ferland/LES
	Glen Hackler/Andrews	Dennis Holmberg/Lea Cty	William Floyd/NMED
	James Brown/Eunice	Richard Ratliff/Texas	M. Marriotte/NIRS
	Jerry Clift/Hartsville	CO'Claire/Ohio	Lee Cheney/CNIC
	Derrith Watchman-Moore/NMED	Joseph Malherek/PC	Ron Curry/NMED
	Clay Clarke/NMED	Patricia Madrid/NMAG	Glenn Smith/NMAG
	Lindsay Lovejoy/NIRS		

MEMORANDUM TO: Joseph G. Giitter, Chief
Special Projects Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards

THRU: Brian W. Smith, Chief /RA/
Gas Centrifuge Facility Licensing Section
Special Projects Branch, FCSS

FROM: Timothy C. Johnson, Project Manager /RA/
Senior Mechanical Systems Engineer
Gas Centrifuge Facility Licensing Section
Special Projects Branch, FCSS

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 2, 2004, TELEPHONE SUMMARY: LOUISIANA
ENERGY SERVICES REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION

On September 2, 2004, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a telephone conference call with staff from Louisiana Energy Services (LES) to discuss fire safety issues related to the LES uranium enrichment plant proposed to be built in Eunice, New Mexico. I am attaching the telephone summary for your use. The summary contains no proprietary or classified information.

Docket: 70-3103
Attachment: Louisiana Energy Services
Telephone Summary

cc: William Szymanski/DOE	Claydean Claiborne/Jal	Rod Krich/LES
Monty Newman/Hobbs	James Curtiss/W&S	Troy Harris/Lovington
Peter Miner/USEC	Betty Richman/Tatum	James Ferland/LES
Glen Hackler/Andrews	Dennis Holmberg/Lea Cty	William Floyd/NMED
James Brown/Eunice	Richard Ratliff/Texas	M. Marriotte/NIRS
Jerry Clift/Hartsville	CO'Claire/Ohio	Lee Cheney/CNIC
Derrith Watchman-Moore/NMED	Joseph Malherek/PC	Ron Curry/NMED
Clay Clarke/NMED	Patricia Madrid/NMAG	Glenn Smith/NMAG
Lindsay Lovejoy/NIRS		

DISTRIBUTION: Docket: 70-3103
 NMSS r/f FCSS r/f
 JHolonich YFaraz
 MGalloway LClark/OGC
 JPark/DWM JDavis/DWM
 TCombs/OCA SGagner/OPA
 RHannah/RegII KClark/RegII
 WMaier/RegIV DAyres/Reg II
 Hearing file
 LES website - No

SPB r/f	RPierson
RWescott	SSteele
ACoggins/OGC	ABradford/DWM
SFlanders/DWM	KEverly/NSIR
DMcIntyre/OPA	RVirgilio/OSTP
VMitlyng/RegIII	DHartland/Reg II
DSeymour/RegII	JHenson/RegII

ML042540208

OFC	GCFLS		GCFLS		GCFLS		GCFLS	
NAME	TCJohnson/os		LMarshall		RWescott		BSmith	
DATE	09/10/04		09/10/04		09/10 /04		09/10/04	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Telephone Conference Call Summary

Fire Safety

Date and Time: 3:30 PM; September 2, 2004

Call Participants:	R. Wescott/NRC	S. Steele/NRC
	A. Mauer/NRC	T.C. Johnson
	R. Krich/LES	D. Green/Excel
	S. Tyler/Areva	

On September 2, 2004, a conference call between U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and Louisiana Energy Services (LES) staffs was held to discuss an NRC clarification request in regard to a postulated fire on a truck carrying UF₆ cylinders inside the loading bay of the Cylinder Receipt and Dispatch Building (CRDB).

LES stated that new NRC and U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations required that UF₆ packages containing at least 0.1 kg or more of uranium hexafluoride offered for transportation must be designed to withstand the 30-minute hydrocarbon fire thermal test specified in 10 CFR 71.73(c)(4) without rupture of the containment system. In addition, handling practices on-site will be to on-load and off-load from the transport vehicles at the loading dock only cylinders in protective assemblies. Movement of cylinders not in overpacks will be performed in carriers with less than 75 gallons of diesel fuel and will not use semi-tractor trailers. In a future revision to the LES Integrated Safety Analysis (ISA) and ISA Summary, the scenario of a truck being on fire while containing protected UF₆ cylinders will be added and the overpack/protective assemblies will be designated as Items relied on for safety (IROFS).

NRC staff requested that the scenario write-up also include an explanation of why the expected worst-case fire would be either less than or equal to the regulatory fire specified in 10 CFR 71.73(c)(4). LES agreed to provide this information in a letter with appropriate change pages made to the ISA Summary provided in the next revision of the Safety Analysis Report.

In response to a question from NRC staff, LES staff stated that the fire brigade along with assistance from nearby fire companies would provide defense- in-depth for this scenario.

Given that the loading bay does not have a sprinkler system, NRC inquired whether an intensification factor was applied to the fire to account for proximity to walls or corners. LES responded that the fire was considered to be small in comparison to the loading bay volume, therefore, it was not necessary to account for wall effects. LES also stated that because of the low in-situ fire loading, a sprinkler system was unnecessary for prevention or mitigation of radiological or chemical consequences.