



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION II  
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET SW SUITE 23T85  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931**

February 25, 2005

United States Enrichment Corporation  
ATTN: Mr. Russ B. Starkey Jr.  
Vice President - Operations  
Two Democracy Center  
6903 Rockledge Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20817

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 70-7002/2005-001 - PORTSMOUTH

Dear Mr. Starkey:

On February 3, 2005, the NRC completed a routine inspection at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the certificate were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. At the conclusion of the inspection on February 3, 2005, the NRC inspector discussed the findings with members of your staff.

This inspection consisted of an examination of activities conducted under the certificate as they relate to safety and compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations and with the conditions of the certificate. Areas examined during the routine inspection are identified in the enclosed report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations of activities in progress, and interviews with personnel.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC did not identify any violations.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jay L. Henson, Chief  
Fuel Facility Inspection Branch 2  
Division of Fuel Facility Inspection

Docket No. 70-7002  
Certificate No. GDP-2

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report

cc w/encl: P. D. Musser, Portsmouth General Manager  
T. A. Brooks, Manager, Nuclear Regulatory Affairs  
S. Penrod, Paducah General Manager  
S. A. Toelle, Director, Nuclear Regulatory Affairs, USEC  
R. M. DeVault, Regulatory Oversight Manager, DOE  
R. J. Vranicar, Portsmouth Contracting Officer's Representative, DOE  
C. O'Claire, State Liaison Officer

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NAME	D.Hartland						
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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II

Docket No.: 70-7002

Certificate No.: GDP-2

Report No.: 70-7002/2005-001

Facility Operator: United States Enrichment Corporation

Facility Name: Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant

Location: 3930 U.S. Route 23 South  
P.O. Box 628  
Piketon, OH 45661

Dates: January 31, through February 3, 2004

Inspector: David Hartland, Senior Fuel Facility Inspector

Approved by: Jay L. Henson, Chief  
Fuel Facility Inspection Branch 2  
Division of Fuel Facility Inspection

Enclosure

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **United States Enrichment Corporation Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant NRC Inspection Report 70-7002/2005-001**

This inspection included aspects of certificatee operations, maintenance, and management organization and controls. The report covers regional inspection activities and includes follow-up of issues identified during previous inspections.

#### **Operations**

- Operations observed were conducted in accordance with regulatory requirements. (Paragraph 2.a)

#### **Facility Support**

- Maintenance and surveillance activities observed were performed in accordance with regulatory requirements. (Paragraph 3.a)
- Plant Operations Review Committee and Quality Assurance audit activities reviewed were in accordance with regulatory requirements. A review of regulatory performance indicators and corrective action program data did not identify any significant adverse trends. (Paragraph 3.b)

#### **Attachment:**

Persons Contacted

Inspection Procedures Used

Items Opened, Closed, and Discussed

List of Acronyms Used

## **REPORT DETAILS**

### **1. Summary of Plant Status**

The certificatee performed routine operations throughout the inspection period.

### **2. Plant Operations**

#### **a. Conduct of Operations**

##### **(1) Scope and Observations (88020 and TI 2600/003)**

The inspector observed routine operations activities and discussed routine operations with staff and management to ensure that activities were conducted in accordance with regulatory requirements.

The inspector observed routine operations in the cascade buildings and area control rooms, autoclave facilities, and the decontamination and central control facilities. The appropriate nuclear criticality safety requirements were implemented for the routine activities observed. Operations staff were alert and generally knowledgeable of the current status of equipment associated with their assigned facility.

##### **(2) Conclusions**

The inspector determined that operations observed were conducted in accordance with regulatory requirements.

#### **b. Miscellaneous Operations Issues**

(Closed) CER 41391: On February 9, 2005, the certificatee made a four-hour call to the NRC Operations Center due to notification to other government agencies regarding a spill of approximately 150 gallons of sodium hypochlorite on plant site. There were no injuries or release to the environment, as the spill was contained within the immediate area. The inspector has no further issues and this item is closed.

(Closed TI 2600/011): Verification of disposition of potentially defective 1-inch Hunt valves for uranium hexafluoride cylinders. The inspector verified that appropriate procedures were in place to implement the requested actions of NRC Bulletin 2003-003 and subsequently approved certificatee-specific exceptions, and that Hunt valves installed on cylinders were being stored and processed consistent with those procedures. The inspector also confirmed that valves obtained from an alternate supplier were verified to meet the requirements of ANSI Standard N14.1. This item is closed.

### **3. Facility Support**

#### **a. Conduct of Maintenance and Surveillance**

##### **(1) Scope and Observations (88025)**

The inspector observed activities related to autoclave pressure decay testing and technetium trap maintenance and reviewed surveillance records for cold recovery pressure control and greater than safe mass deposits in the cascade. The inspector verified one or more of the following: activities observed were performed in a safe manner; testing was performed in accordance with procedures; measuring and test equipment was within calibration; Technical Safety Requirement (TSR) Limiting Conditions for Operations were entered, when appropriate; removal and restoration of the affected components were properly accomplished; test acceptance criteria were clear and conformed with the TSR and Safety Analysis Report; and any deficiencies or out-of-tolerance values identified during the testing were documented, reviewed, and resolved by appropriate management personnel.

The inspector attended the daily work control meeting and observed that emergent issues were appropriately prioritized. The inspector also reviewed the backlog of preventative and corrective maintenance work orders and did not identify any significant adverse trends or issues.

##### **(2) Conclusions**

The inspector determined that maintenance and surveillance activities observed were performed in accordance with regulatory requirements.

#### **b. Management Organization and Controls**

##### **(1) Scope and Observations (88005)**

The inspector attended a Plant Operations Review Committee meeting and observed that the participants discussed the agenda items in detail prior to approval. The inspector reviewed some Quality Assurance audit reports and noted that the scope of the audits was appropriate and that issues identified were properly documented for followup. The inspector also reviewed regulatory performance indicators and corrective action program data and did not identify any significant adverse trends.

##### **(2) Conclusions**

The inspector determined that Plant Operations Review Committee and Quality Assurance audit activities reviewed were in accordance with regulatory requirements.

### **4. Exit Interview**

The inspector presented the inspection results to the members of facility management on February 3, 2005. The inspector asked the certificatee staff whether any materials examined during the inspection should be considered proprietary. The certificatee staff did not identify any of the materials as proprietary.

## ATTACHMENT

### 1. **PERSONS CONTACTED**

#### Partial List of Licensee's Persons Contacted

\* P. Musser, General Manager  
J. Anzelmo, Plant Services Manager  
\*T. Brooks, Nuclear Regulatory Affairs Manager  
\*T. Canterbury, Engineering Manager  
\*M. Conkel, Maintenance Manager  
L. Cutlip, Contaminated Feed Manager  
\*D. Fosson, Operations Manager  
\*S. Fout, Plant Manager  
\*R. Lawton, Nuclear Safety & Quality Manager  
\*G. Workman, Production Support Manager

\*Denotes those present at the exit meeting on February 3, 2005.

### 2. **INSPECTION PROCEDURES USED**

IP 88005 Management Organization and Controls  
IP 88020 Regional NCS Inspection Program  
IP 88025 Maintenance and Surveillance Testing  
IP 90712 In-office Reviews of Written Reports on Non-routine Events  
TI 2600/003 Operational Safety Review  
TI 2600/011 Verification of disposition of potentially defective 1-inch Hunt valves for uranium hexafluoride cylinders.

### 3. **ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED**

<u>Closed</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Summary</u>
CER 41391	CER	Notification to other government agencies regarding a spill of approximately 150 gallons of sodium hypochlorite on plant site.
TI 2600/011	TI	Verification of disposition of potentially defective 1-inch Hunt valves for uranium hexafluoride cylinders.

### 4. **LIST OF ACRONYMS USED**

ADAMS	Agencywide Documents Access and Management System
CER	Certificate Event Report
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
IP	Inspection Procedures
NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
TI	Temporary Instruction
TSR	Technical Safety Requirement

