

May 18, 2005

MEMORANDUM TO: B. Jennifer Davis, Section Chief
Environmental Review Section
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: Matthew Blevins, Senior Project Manager /RA/
Environmental Review Section
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: MAY 4, 2005, TELEPHONE SUMMARY: CLARIFICATIONS TO
USEC INC. RESPONSES TO REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

On May 4, 2005, staff from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and its technical assistance contractors, ICF Consulting, and Trinity Engineering and Associates held a telephone conference call with staff from USEC Inc. (USEC) to discuss clarifications to USEC responses to NRC's February 23, 2005, "Request for Additional Information on the USEC Inc. Proposed American Centrifuge Plant (ACP) Environmental Report." In addition to the attached meeting summary, NRC staff indicated that due to the public unavailability of the ACP application documents in the NRC's Agencywide Document Management System (ADAMS) in late 2004 and USEC's delays in submitting its responses to the NRC's RAI's on the ACP's environmental report, the schedule to complete and issue both the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements would slip by at least two months each to September 2005 and April 2006, respectively. The NRC staff reiterated the need for comprehensive, high-quality, and timely USEC responses to allow the NRC to meet its licensing review schedule. The NRC staff indicated that it would be available to discuss any draft responses in meetings or conference calls.

Attachment: Telephone Summary for Environmental Review

Docket: 70-7004
cc: See attached list

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TELEPHONE SUMMARY
Clarification to USEC RAI Responses
Related to Environmental Review

Date and Time: May 4, 2005; 1:00 PM

Call Participants:

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission: M. Blevins R. Linton

ICF Inc.: S. Wyngarden D. Hammer
 T. Stribley E. Carr

Trinity Engineering and Associates: D. Stuenkel

USEC Inc.: T. Angelelli G. Weinberger
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 G. Goslow K. Coriell

Purpose: To ask clarifying questions regarding USEC Inc.'s (USEC's) responses to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) request for additional information on the proposed American Centrifuge Plant Environmental Report. The NRC's request for additional environmental information was submitted to USEC by letter dated February 23, 2005. The NRC staff requested further information on several topics as summarized below.

Summary:

- USEC indicated that a revised Environmental Report containing integrated information developed in response to the NRC's request for additional information would be submitted as soon as it received USEC's final release approval. The revised Environmental Report will include corrected units originally reported as $\mu\text{Ci/g}$ when they should have been pCi/g .
- USEC agreed that generalized information about its Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan and Best Management Practices Manual can be included in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the American Centrifuge Plant, even though they were labeled proprietary in USEC's response.
- USEC agreed to submit additional environmental information about the proposed manufacturing of centrifuges to be used in the American Centrifuge Plant, including information on how to adapt air emission estimates reported in an October 2002 U.S. Department of Energy Environmental Assessment ("Environmental Assessment for the Leasing of Facilities and Equipment to USEC Inc.," DOE/EA-1451) and information on potential liquid effluents.
- USEC identified the thermoluminescent monitoring locations that correspond to the table of environmental baseline radiation levels provided previously (Table 9.2-8 in their License Application). This information will be submitted in writing in a follow-up response to the NRC. USEC also clarified that the monitoring stations labeled as "ACP"

on site maps are proposed future sites for monitoring radiation levels around cylinder storage yards associated with the American Centrifuge Plant.

- The NRC noted that one of the archeological survey reports that USEC submitted in response to the request for additional information (Schweikart et al., 1997) was missing some pages. USEC agreed to re-submit the report in full.
- USEC agreed to specify the units and correct numbers that appeared to be erroneous in Table 4.6.3.2-1 of the Environmental Report. These changes will be included in a revised version of the Report to be submitted to the NRC.
- USEC clarified that there will not be a need for extensive or lengthy ground preparation activities (clearing, grading, etc.) associated with construction to expand the American Centrifuge Plant capacity from 3.5 million separative work unit (SWU) to 7 million SWU. This is because most of that activity was previously completed. USEC estimated that ground preparation activities associated with plant expansion should last for approximately three months and should not include any bulldozing or scraping.
- USEC agreed to submit whatever quantitative information it could develop on the anticipated concentration of hydrogen fluoride in the inside workspace air during operations of the American Centrifuge Plant. USEC indicated that the information may simply note that expected airborne concentrations are below some specified detection level.
- USEC agreed to provide additional information on the volume of waste that may be generated from centrifuge failures during plant operations. This information will be included in a revised version of the Environmental Report.
- USEC pointed to an Environmental Assessment prepared by the Energy Research and Development Agency in 1977 as another reference addressing the historic value of buildings on the Portsmouth Reservation.