

From: Timothy Johnson
To: Lee Cheney
Date: 4/21/06 1:58PM
Subject: Re: Thank you

This is in response to your email dated March 6, 2006, and your discussion with me at the mandatory hearing where you expressed a concern that depleted uranium cylinders stored outdoors could reach temperatures up to 225F and could cause safety problems. We evaluated this concern and discussed this with LES. The concern is that if the cylinder heats up sufficiently it could cause the uranium hexafluoride to become a liquid and cause the cylinder to rupture.

Based on our reviews, the expected maximum temperatures in cylinders in an outdoor, uncovered, storage environment in New Mexico are unlikely to exceed 160F. At this temperature, the temperatures and pressures inside the cylinder would not be sufficient to cause the uranium hexafluoride to become a liquid. We also evaluated the internal cylinder conditions if the temperature was to reach 225F, and again this temperature would be insufficient to cause the uranium hexafluoride to liquefy.

Note that cylinders are limited to the total amount of uranium hexafluoride by weight that can be placed in the cylinders as required under American National Standards Institute N14.1, "American National Standard for Nuclear Materials - Uranium Hexafluoride - Packaging for Transport." At the cylinder limits, there is sufficient volume in the cylinder to allow all the uranium hexafluoride to be a liquid at 250F with a 5 percent free space. Therefore, outdoor storage conditions will not cause the uranium hexafluoride to become a liquid and cause the cylinder to rupture.

>>> "Lee Cheney" <lee_cheney@leaco.net> 03/06/06 10:11 PM >>>
Dear Timothy,

Thank you again for letting me bend your ear at the NRC-LES hearing tonight. I would appreciate it if you would go to www.CNIC.ws and on the first page read the paragraph about the New Mexico heat problem that will cause the UBC's to reach temperatures that will cause the DUF6 to turn to gas in the summer. I was going to say a few words to the ASLB tonight but my back was killing me and I had to go home early so I would appreciate it if there is any way you can ask the ASLB to refuse to issue LES an operating license unless this UBC heat problem is adequately dealt with by LES to the satisfaction of the NRC. Thank you for being here. Have a good and safe trip back home.
Lee

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Subject: Re: Thank you
Creation Date: 4/21/06 1:58PM
From: Timothy Johnson

Created By: TCJ@nrc.gov

Recipients

leaco.net

lee_cheney (Lee Cheney)

Post Office**Route**

leaco.net

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