



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET, SW, SUITE 23T85
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

September 07, 2006

Mr. Ronald J. Land
Plant Manager
Areva ANP, Inc.
2101 Horn Rapids Road
Richland, WA 99352-0130

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 70-1257/2006-008

Dear Mr. Land:

This refers to the inspection conducted at your Richland facility from August 7-10, 2006. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements.

As a result of the inspection, the enclosed NRC Forms 591FF, SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT, are being issued. The enclosed forms indicate that no violations were identified during the inspection of your licensed activities. Please retain the original Form 591FF Parts 1 and 3 for your files.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made 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>.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Alphonsa Gooden for */RA/*

David A. Ayres, Chief
Fuel Facility Inspection Branch 1
Division of Fuel Facility Inspection

Docket No. 70-1257
License No. SNM-1227

Enclosure: NRC Form 591FF Parts 1 and 3

cc w/encl: (See page 2)

R. J. Land

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cc w/encl:
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Distribution w/encl: (See page 3)

R. J. Land

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Distribution w/encl:

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- M. Adams, NMSS
- M. Galloway NMSS

PUBLICLY AVAILABLE
 NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE
 SENSITIVE
 NON-SENSITIVE

ADAMS: X Yes ACCESSION NUMBER: _____

OFFICE	RII:DFFI	RII:DFFI					
SIGNATURE	/RA/	/RA/					
NAME	SSubosits	AGooden					
DATE	09/08/2006	09/08/2006	9/ /2006	9/ /2006	9/ /2006	9/ /2006	9/ /2006
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

**SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT
AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION**

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED: AREVA NP, Inc. 2101 Horn Rapids Road Richland, WA 99352-0130		2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region II, Division of Fuel Facilities Inspection 61 Forsyth Street, Suite 23T85 Atlanta, GA 30303	
REPORT NUMBER(S): 70-1257/2006-008			
3. DOCKET NUMBER(S): 70-1257	4. LICENSE NUMBER(S): SNM-1227	5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION: August 7-10, 2006	

LICENSEE:

The inspection was an examination of the activities conducted under your license as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) rules and regulations and the conditions of your license. The inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspector. The inspection findings are as follows:

- 1. Based on the inspection findings, no violations were identified.
- 2. Previous violation(s) closed.
- 3. The violation(s), specifically described to you by the inspector as non-cited violations, are not being cited because they were self-identified, non-repetitive, and corrective action was or is being taken, and the remaining criteria in the NRC Enforcement Policy to exercise discretion were satisfied.

_____ Non-Cited Violation(s) was/were discussed involving the following requirement(s) and Corrective Action(s):

- 4. During this inspection certain of your activities, as described below and/or attached, were in violation of NRC requirements and are being cited. This form is a NOTICE OF VIOLATION, which may be subject to posting in accordance with 10 CFR 19.11.

(Violations and Corrective Actions)

Licensee's Statement of Corrective Actions for Item 4, above.

I hereby state that, within 30 days, the actions described by me to the inspector will be taken to correct the violations identified. This statement of corrective actions is made in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.201 (corrective steps already taken, corrective steps which will be taken, date when full compliance will be achieved). I understand that no further written response to NRC will be required, unless specifically requested.

Title	Printed Name	Signature	Date
LICENSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE			
NRC INSPECTOR	Stephen Subosits		09/07/2006

**SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT
AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION**

1. LICENSEE

**AREVA NP, Inc.
2101 Horn Rapids Road
Richland, WA 99352-0130**

2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE

**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II, Division of Fuel Facilities Inspection
61 Forsyth Street, Suite 23T85
Atlanta, GA 30303**

REPORT NUMBER(S): **70-1257/2006-008**

3. DOCKET NUMBER(S):

70-1257

4. LICENSE NUMBER(S):

SNM -1227

5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION:

August 7-10, 2006

6. INSPECTOR(S): Stephen Subosits

7. INSPECTION PROCEDURE USED: 88020

SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION

Executive Summary

AREVA NP Richland facility fabricates low-enriched uranium fuel and blended low-enriched uranium fuel (BLEU) for use in commercial reactors. During the period of the inspection, all operations were normal.

This routine, announced inspection included observations and evaluation of the licensee's plant operations with emphasis on the BLEU process. The inspection involved observations of plant operations, maintenance work activities, reviews of selected records and documentation, and interviews with plant personnel. The inspection identified the following aspects of the licensee's plant operations program:

- Operators were knowledgeable of plant procedures and the safety significant aspects of the licensee's process operations. The licensee took corrective action to address a weakness identified in an operating procedure which contained inadequate guidance for operator response to emulsions formed in the extraction section of the solvent extraction process.
- Based on observations of plant operations and discussions with production operators, the licensee was adequately maintaining compliance with nuclear criticality safety (NCS) controls and nuclear material storage requirements.
- In general the licensee maintained adequate configuration control on plant modifications and affected drawings. However, a discrepancy was found in the BLEU process ventilation configuration. A ventilation exhaust duct depicted on the system drawing as having a register grille was found without the grating in place. Without the grating, a HEPA filter bank described as an Item Relied on for Safety (IROFS) in the licensee's Integrated Safety Analysis Summary, was susceptible to buildup of foreign material which might result in exceeding the HEPA filter's differential pressure limit and potential breakthrough of the filter media. The licensee acknowledged the discrepancy and committed to take corrective actions to address the deficiency in configuration control of the affected portion of the ventilation system.

Executive Summary (continued)

- NCS audits of plant operations were adequate in their focus and assessment of various work activities and process operations. Audit findings and recommendations were communicated to licensee management.
- The licensee's performance of surveillance testing on safety-related equipment was satisfactory and met the established acceptance criteria.
- The licensee's NCS training and examination material for plant operators was adequate to ensure proper indoctrination of personnel on the principles of NCS and their responsibility regarding compliance with NCS controls.