



April 25, 2007
AET 07-0022

Mr. Michael F. Weber
Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Attention: Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

**American Centrifuge Plant
Docket Number 70-7004; License Number SNM-2011
Submission of USEC's Financial Information for Construction of the American Centrifuge Plant – USEC
Proprietary Information**

**INFORMATION TRANSMITTED HERewith IS PROTECTED FROM PUBLIC
DISCLOSURE AS CONFIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL OR FINANCIAL INFORMATION
AND/OR TRADE SECRETS PURSUANT TO 10 CFR 2.390 AND 9.17(a)(4)**

Dear Mr. Weber:

Pursuant to USEC Inc.'s (USEC) License Condition #15, Enclosure 1 contains financial information for the initial (Phase I) construction activities of the American Centrifuge Plant (ACP). In part, License Condition #15 states, "Construction of each incremental phase of the ACP shall not commence before funding for that increment is available or committed. USEC shall make available for NRC inspection, documentation of both the budgeted costs for such phase and the source of funds available or committed to pay those costs."

Enclosure 1 contains USEC Proprietary Information and USEC requests that this enclosure be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) 2.390(a)(4). An affidavit required by 10 CFR 2.390(b)(1)(ii) is provided in Enclosure 2.

USEC plans to commence construction by approximately May 7, 2007. Please contact me at (301) 564-3470 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Miner
Director, Regulatory and Quality Assurance

Enclosures: As Stated

cc: S. Echols, NRC HQ
J. Henson, NRC Region II
B. Smith, NRC HQ

Enclosure 2 of AET 07-0022

Affidavit

**AFFIDAVIT OF PETER J. MINER
SUPPORTING APPLICATION TO WITHHOLD FROM
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE CERTAIN INFORMATION CONTAINED IN
ENCLOSURE 1 FOR THE AMERICAN CENTRIFUGE PLANT**

I, Peter J. Miner, of USEC Inc. (USEC), having been duly sworn, do hereby affirm and state:

1. I have been authorized by USEC to (a) review the information owned by USEC and is referenced herein relating to Enclosure 1 regarding the status of USEC's financial information for the initial (Phase I) construction activities for the American Centrifuge Plant (ACP), which USEC seeks to have withheld from public disclosure pursuant to section 147 of the *Atomic Energy Act* (AEA), as amended, 42 U.S.C § 2167, and 10 CFR 2.390(a)(3), 2.390(a)(4), 2.390(d)(1) and 9.17(a)(4), and (b) apply for the withholding of such information from public disclosure by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on behalf of USEC.

2. Consistent with the provisions of 10 CFR 2.390(b)(4) of the Commission's regulations, the following is furnished for consideration by the Commission in determining whether the information sought to be withheld from public disclosure should be withheld.
 - i. The information sought to be withheld from public disclosure is owned and has been held in confidence by USEC.
 - ii. The information is of a type customarily held in confidence by USEC and not customarily disclosed to the public. USEC has a rational basis for determining the types of information customarily held in confidence by it and, in that connection, utilizes a system to determine when and whether to hold certain types of information in confidence. The application of that system and the substance of that system constitute USEC policy and provide the rational basis required. Under that system, information is held in confidence if it falls in one or more of several types, the release of which might result in the loss of an existing or potential

competitive advantage, as follows:

- a) The information reveals the distinguishing aspects of a process (or component, structure, tool, method, etc.) where presentation of its use by any of USEC's competitors without license from USEC constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies.
 - b) It consists of supporting data, including test data, relative to a process (or component, structure, tool, method, etc.), the application of which data secures a competitive economic advantage (e.g., by optimization or improved marketability).
 - c) Its use by a competitor would reduce their expenditure of resources or improve their competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing a similar product.
 - d) It reveals cost or price information, production capacities, budget levels, or commercial strategies of USEC, its customers or suppliers.
 - e) It reveals aspects of past, present, or future USEC or customer funded development plans and programs of potential commercial value to USEC.
 - f) It contains patentable ideas, for which patent protection may be desirable.
 - g) It reveals information concerning the terms and conditions, work performed, administration, performance under or extension of contracts with its customers or suppliers.
- iii. There are sound policy reasons behind the USEC system which include the following:
- a) The use of such information by USEC gives USEC a competitive advantage over its competitors. It is, therefore, withheld from disclosure to protect the USEC competitive position.
 - b) It is information, which is marketable in many ways. The extent to which such information is available to competitors diminishes USEC's ability to sell products and services involving the use of the information.

- c) Use by our competitors would put USEC at a competitive disadvantage by reducing their expenditure of resources at USEC expense.
 - d) Each component of proprietary information pertinent to a particular competitive advantage is potentially as valuable as the total competitive advantage. If competitors acquire components or proprietary information, any one component may be the key to the entire puzzle, thereby depriving USEC of a competitive advantage.
 - e) Unrestricted disclosure would jeopardize the position of prominence of USEC in the world market, and thereby give a market advantage to the competition of those countries.
 - f) The USEC capacity to invest corporate assets in research and development depends upon the success in obtaining and maintaining a competitive advantage.
- iv. The information is being transmitted to the Commission in confidence and, under the provisions of 10 CFR Section 2.390, it is to be received in confidence by the Commission.
- v. The information sought to be protected is not available in public sources or available information has not been previously employed in the same original manner or method to the best of our knowledge and belief.
3. The proprietary information sought to be withheld is contained in Enclosure 1 to USEC letter AET 07-0022. Specifically, Enclosure 1 contains USEC's initial (Phase I) construction activities, the estimated costs for initial (Phase I) construction activities, and the source of funds available/committed to pay for this phase of the ACP. The proprietary information submitted by USEC is information required to be made available to the Commission pursuant to Materials License (SNM-2011) concerning License Condition number 15 related to the financial qualification requirements for construction and operation of the ACP. In part, the license condition states, "Construction of each incremental phase of the ACP shall not commence before

funding for that increment is available or committed. Of this funding, USEC must have in place before constructing such increment, commitments for one or more of the following: equity contributions from USEC, affiliates and/or partners, along with lending and/or lease arrangements that solely or cumulatively are sufficient to ensure funding for the particular increment's construction costs. USEC shall make available for NRC inspection, documentation of both the budgeted costs for such phase and the source of funds available or committed to pay those costs."

The information contained within Enclosure 1 has not been previously disclosed and is likely to cause substantial harm to the competitive position of USEC because it contains details of our construction projections, including a cost breakdown of the various cost elements. Moreover, this information is part of that which will enable USEC to deploy the ACP and ensure adequate funding is available for construction/refurbishment activities for the ACP. This information may be disclosed to the U.S. Department of Energy consistent with on-going discussion concerning deployment of the ACP and likewise, will be requested to be withheld from public disclosure.

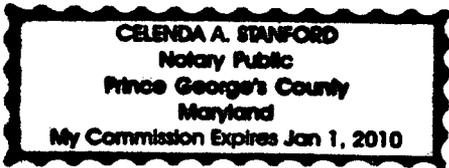
Further the deponent sayeth not.

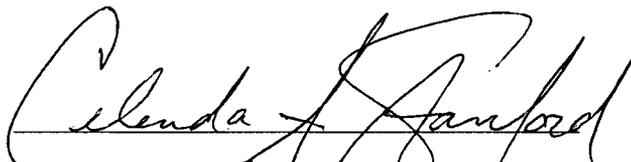
Peter J. Miner, having been duly sworn, hereby confirms that I am the Director, Regulatory and Quality Assurance of USEC, that I am authorized on behalf of USEC to review the information attached hereto and to sign and file with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission this affidavit and the attachments hereto, and that the statements made and matters set forth herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.


Peter J. Miner

State of Maryland)
) ss.
County of Montgomery)

On this 25th day of April 2007, the individual signing above personally appeared before me, is known by me to be the person whose name is subscribed to within the instrument, and acknowledged that he executed the same for the purposes therein contained. In witness hereof I hereunto set my hand and official seal.




Celenda A. Stanford, Notary Public
My commission expires January 1, 2010