

August 17, 2007

Mr. Al Kennedy
Licensing Project Manager
Global Laser Enrichment
P.O. Box 780 - Mail Code H10
Wilmington, NC 28402

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY
SAFEGUARDS WORKSHOP

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

The nuclear material processing operation at the General Electric Silex uranium enrichment facility is an activity that may be selected by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for safeguards inspection. Because of current budget restrictions, it is unclear how likely it is that the IAEA will select additional facilities for safeguards inspections in the Nuclear Weapon States in the immediate future.

Should your facility be selected for IAEA safeguards in the future, information for your facility would be declared to the IAEA including facility design information and material accounting information. Additionally, you would be required to permit IAEA inspections at your facility to verify the accuracy and completeness of the declarations. Some of the monitoring and verification measures required to permit the IAEA to achieve its verification goals could affect operations and require changes in operational procedures and designs. These impacts could be minimized by advance planning for the possibility of safeguards inspections.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will hold a workshop on IAEA safeguards on August 28-29, 2007, to provide you with information on IAEA safeguards and recent experience on its implementation at an NRC-licensed process facility. The meeting will be held at NRC's Executive Boulevard Building (6003 Executive Boulevard, Rockville, MD). The tentative agenda for the meeting is as follows:

Welcome
IAEA Safeguards Background
US-IAEA Safeguards Agreement and Protocol
Additional Protocol
10 CFR Part 75
U.S. Eligible Facilities List and IAEA Selection
Safeguards Inspection Overview
High-Enriched Uranium (HEU) Downblending Plant Safeguards Overview

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HEU Downblending Facility Lessons Learned
Enrichment Plant Safeguards Overview
Discussion
Closing

Please let us know if you or your staff would like to attend the planned workshop and how many persons would be attending from your organization. Please respond to, or, if you have any questions, please contact, Bruce Moran at (301) 492-3124 or via e-mail to bwm@nrc.gov or Tom Grice at (301) 492-3131 or via e-mail to tag2@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Timothy C. Johnson, Senior Project Manager
Enrichment and Conversion Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

A. Kennedy

2

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