



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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

November 16, 2007

NMED 070332
NMED 070378

Mr. Charles Perkins
Site Manager
AREVA NP, Inc.
2101 Horn Rapids Road
Richland, WA 99352-0130

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 70-1257/2007-008

Dear Mr. Perkins:

This refers to the results of the above-referenced Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) inspection conducted at your Horn Rapids Road facility on October 30 to November 1, 2007.

As a result of the inspection, the enclosed NRC Form 591FF, SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT, is being issued. The enclosed form indicates 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,

/RA/

Thomas R. Decker, Acting 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)

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

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PUBLICLY AVAILABLE
 NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE
 SENSITIVE
 NON-SENSITIVE

ADAMS: Yes ACCESSION NUMBER: _____

OFFICE	RII:DFFI	RII:DFFI				
SIGNATURE	/RA/	O Lopez for /RA/				
NAME	OLopez	JJimenez				
DATE	11/16/2007	11/16/2007				
E-MAIL COPY?	YES	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY
IR2007-008.wpd

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\REPORTS\Draft Inspection Report Folder\Areva - Richland\AREVA NP

**SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT
AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION**

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED: Areva NP, Inc. 2101 Horn Rapids Road Richland, Washington 99325		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): 2007-008			
3. DOCKET NUMBER(S): 70-1257	4. LICENSEE NUMBER(S): SNM-1227	5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION: October 30 - November 1, 2007	

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	Jose Jimenez/Omar Lopez		

**SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT
AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION**

1. LICENSEE

**Areva NP, Inc.
2101 Horn Rapids Road
Richland, Washington 99352**

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):

3. DOCKET NUMBER(S):

70-1257

4. LICENSE NUMBER(S):

SNM-1227

5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION:

October 30 - November 1, 2007

6. INSPECTOR(S): Jose Jimenez/Omar Lopez

7. INSPECTION PROCEDURES USED: 88020 and 88045

SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION

Executive Summary

The Areva Richland facility fabricates low-enriched uranium fuel and blended low-enriched uranium fuel for use in commercial reactors. During the period of this inspection, all operations were normal.

This was a routine announced inspection that included observations and evaluations of the plant's effluent control and environmental protection and operational safety programs. The inspection involved observations of work activities, reviews of environmental data collection and analysis activities, reviews of selected records, and interviews with plant personnel. The inspection results are outlined below:

Operational Safety (88020)

- The inspectors selected various Item Relied On For Safety (IROFS) from several production areas to verify that the licensee had adequately implemented, maintained and had established a program to ensure that the IROFS would be capable of performing their intended safety function. IROFS reviewed were in place, properly tested and in good condition.
- Plant personnel were demonstrated to be knowledgeable of plant procedures, including management expectations for normal, shut down, abnormal and emergency conditions. Operators also adequately explained the safety significant aspects of the operations of their duty stations.

Executive Summary (continued)

- The inspectors selected various process areas to ensure that the licensee had maintained the approved configuration with emphasis in the reviews of nuclear criticality safety systems. Audits reviewed for the nuclear criticality safety of plant operations showed the licensee had adequately focused and assessed the various work activities and process operations.
- The inspectors verified that the training records for interviewed operators to ensure that the licensee had adequately qualified them before letting them work in their areas. The inspectors also verified that qualifications included training in the areas of nuclear criticality safety, chemical safety controls, radiological protection and emergency preparedness.

Effluent Control and Environmental Protection (88045)

- Based on discussions with cognizant personnel, the inspectors determined that no substantial changes to the environmental monitoring program had been made since the last inspection. Recent audits of the environmental monitoring program were reviewed to ensure that the licensee was properly assessing the effectiveness of the program. No safety concerns were identified.
- The inspectors interviewed cognizant personnel responsible for conducting analytical measurements to ensure that the adequacy of methods used, sample frequency, maintenance and calibration of laboratory equipment, and use of acceptance criteria. The inspectors determined that these activities were implemented in accordance with analytical procedures and applicable program requirements.
- The inspectors reviewed licensee programs associated with the testing and inspection of high efficiency particulate air filters (HEPA). The inspectors interviewed personnel responsible for inspecting and testing HEPA filters. The inspector determined that these activities were conducted in accordance with plant procedures and that responsible individuals were trained and qualified in the proper use of test equipment. The inspectors observed multiple HEPA filter banks in various locations of the facility and verified that differential pressure readings across specific filter banks were within the established acceptance criteria.
- The inspectors toured selected stack effluent monitoring stations and the plant's liquid effluent monitoring station to ensure that the locations were representative of facility effluents. Cognizant personnel responsible for environmental sampling were interviewed to assess their level of knowledge of license requirements and procedural requirements associated with environmental sampling and preparation. Records of air, liquid and soil analyses were reviewed for the past year and determined to be in compliance with license and regulatory requirements.

Executive Summary (continued)**Items Opened, Closed And Discussed**

Item Number	Status	Type	Description
EN 43397	Discussed	LER	Failure of IROFS that restricts the amount of combustible material in Warehouse 6. This item remains open until training to improve awareness of plant personnel regarding the IROFS is completed.
EN 43438	Closed	LER	Fire in the incinerator due to a limit switch failure. As part of the corrective actions, the licensee replaced the limit switch and installed a new annunciator to alert operators in the event that a box in the feed hopper is not fed to the primary chamber.
2006-05-05	Closed	IFI	Review of the process and instrumentation diagrams (P&ID's) indicated that progress in accuracy and identification of equipment had been made in the solvent extraction area. Labeling of safety related equipment appeared consistent.
TI2600/013	Closed	IFI	Inspectors toured the UF ₆ cylinders pad and determined that the licensee had completed the removal of all Hunt-valves from applicable UF ₆ cylinder inventory. The inspector noted that threaded plugs had been installed in place of the Hunt-valves. The licensee had committed to completing this effort by the end of 2007 and this commitment has been achieved.