

January 10, 2008 REL:08:002

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Attn: Document Control Desk (03-H8) One White Flint North 11555 Rockville Pike Rockville, Maryland 20852-2738

Gentlemen:

Subject:

AREVA NP Inc. (Richland) Summary of Facility Changes Made during Calendar

Year 2007

Enclosed is a summary of facility changes made since January 1, 2007 which did not require preapproval.

This summary is being submitted in accordance with 10 CFR 70.72 (d)(2). AREVA NP requests that this annual update be withheld in its entirety from public disclosure in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 or 10 CFR 2.790 in that it contains information that is either commercially proprietary in nature or contains security-related information.

Technical contact information relative to the Richland Site ISA is as follows:

AREVA NP Inc. Attn: Calvin D. Manning, Manager Nuclear Criticality Safety 2101 Horn Rapids Road Richland, WA 99354

Phone: 509-375-8237

Email: calvin.manning@areva.com

Additionally, I can be reached at 509-375-8409 or via email at robert.link@areva.com.

Very truly yours,

R. E. Link, Manager

Environmental, Health, Safety & Licensing

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Attachment A: 10CFR70.72 (d)(2) - Required Listing of Changes Not Requiring NRC Pre-Approval.

AREVA NP INC.

An AREVA and Siemens company

| STATE OF WASHINGTON | ) |    |
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| COUNTY OF BENTON    | ) |    |

## Robert E. Link, being duly sworn on oath, states as follows:

- 1. I am employed by AREVA NP Inc. (AREVA NP) as Manager, Environmental, Health, Safety and Licensing in Richland, Washington. I am responsible for the overall administration of the safety programs at AREVA NP's Richland, Washington nuclear fuel fabrication facility, including regulatory licensing and permitting. This affidavit is based on my first hand, personal knowledge and is submitted in my capacity as Manager, Environmental, Health, Safety and Licensing.
- 2. I am familiar with the contents of the "Summary of Facility Changes made During Calendar Year 2007" for the AREVA NP Inc., Richland, Washington Fuel Fabrication Facility" (Annual Summary Update of Facility Changes), which provides the annual listing of changes to the Richland Site as required by 10CFR70.72 (d)(2). This Annual Summary Update has been classified and designated as "Proprietary" by AREVA NP in accordance with the document control system and policies established by AREVA NP for the control and protection of proprietary and confidential information.
- 3. AREVA NP is engaged in the business of designing and manufacturing nuclear fuel assemblies for commercial nuclear reactors. Within the United States, there are two additional firms that design and manufacture nuclear fuel for commercial nuclear reactors and there are several other companies outside of the United States that engage in the same business as AREVA NP. Competition among these companies including AREVA NP is fierce and

manufacturing costs of the nuclear fuel are critical to the maintenance of market share and to the growth of market share among utility customers.

- 4. The Annual Summary of Facility Changes contains commercial information of a confidential nature that is not available in public sources or available to the public. This information contained in the Annual of Facility Changes Summary is commercial and confidential because it:
  - A. Reveals distinguishing aspects of AREVA NP's manufacturing processes by relating sequences of operations and/or sub-operations to optimize the efficiency and performance of manufacturing operations which a competitor within the field of nuclear fuel manufacturing may adapt for their own processes, reducing the competitor's expenditure of resources to achieve the same efficiencies, thereby gaining a competitive advantage to the disadvantage of AREVA NP.
  - B. Reveals aspects of privately funded development of process controls and parameters derived by AREVA NP over the course of optimizing the performance of waste treatment and other processes.
  - C. Reveals technical rationale developed by AREVA NP relating to plant layout, structure, process flow and other technical information which a competitor could readily use without expenditure of funds and replicate in its facilities thereby gaining a competitive advantage to the disadvantage of AREVA NP.
- 5. AREVA NP Inc. will suffer considerable competitive harm if the contents of the Annual Summary of Facility Changes are made available to AREVA NP domestic and international competitors.

Dated this 174 day of January, 2008. Robert E. Link Manager, Environmental, Health, Safety and Licensing

STATE OF WASHINGTON **COUNTY OF BENTON** 

day of January, 2008, before me, the undersigned, a On this Notary Public in and for the State of Washington, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared Robert E. Link to me known to be the Manager, Environmental, Health, Safety and Licensing of AREVA NP Inc., the corporation that executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged the said instrument to be the free and voluntary act and deed of said corporation, for the uses and purposes therein mentioned, and on oath stated that he is authorized to execute the said instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal hereto affixed the day and year first above written.

Susan K. McCoy

Notary Public in and for the State of Washington,

residing at Dixie, Washington.

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: January 10, 2012