

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Public Comment on the Scope of an  
Environmental Impact Statement about the Proposed  
GE-Hitachi Global Laser Enrichment Facility

On January 30, 2009, General Electric-Hitachi Global Laser Enrichment (GEH) submitted an environmental report as one part of a license application for a uranium enrichment facility. The proposed enrichment facility would be located on the existing General Electric/Global Nuclear Fuels-Americas site north of Wilmington, NC. The facility, if built, would enrich the isotope uranium-235 in uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>). The enriched uranium would be used in nuclear power plants.

NRC has not decided whether it will grant GEH a license to construct and operate the proposed facility. NRC staff is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as one part of our review, in addition to a separate safety and security review. An EIS provides information to the public and to those in the agency who will decide whether to grant a license. Public comments are an essential part of our environmental review. Your comments will help us to define the scope of our environmental review.

NRC's environmental reviews typically cover topics such as effects on air quality, water use, water quality, soils, plants, animals, public and worker health, historic and cultural resources, economic resources, cultural resources, and social services, and environmental justice

1) What do you think are the most important topics to include in the environmental review?

I support this project - it will be an asset to our local community and our nation. Reassuring local citizens that environmental issues - air, water, wildlife + public safety are studied + no negative impacts will result is most important.

2) Are there any unique aspects of the environment of the area you would like us to consider in our review?

We have a beautiful + unusual environment - ocean, tidal zones, river,

3) GEH has proposed to build and operate a uranium enrichment facility to supply enriched uranium to nuclear electrical generating plants. Would you like to suggest any alternatives to the proposed facility?

This is an important element in our country's drive to energy independence + national security - I fully support GEH in this project

4) Are there any issues you think will not need to be studied in detail?

The more information the better - getting the facts out will help dispel misunderstandings + uncertainty about the project