

July 20, 2009
EN-09-033

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT
NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Licensee: AREVA NP, Inc. (EA-08-278)
AREVA NP – Richland
Docket No.: 70-1257
License No.: SNM-1227

Subject: CONFIRMATORY ORDER (EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY)

This is to inform the Commission that a Confirmatory Order confirming commitments reached as part of an alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mediation will be issued on or about July 23, 2009, to AREVA NP – Richland, Inc. (AREVA), Richland, Washington, to address a violation resulting from the deliberate misconduct of a former AREVA security officer. Specifically, on five separate occasions between January 2007 and March 2008, and without authorization or approval, this individual signed the name of authorizing individuals on Site Access Authorization - Unescorted forms, instead of obtaining the signature of an individual listed on the Authorization List, as required by procedure. As a result, individuals were granted access to the site without proper authorization. In response to our letter of February 11, 2009, which documented this apparent violation of NRC requirements, AREVA requested ADR.

A settlement agreement was reached at an ADR mediation session conducted on June 2, 2009. AREVA agreed to a number of corrective actions and enhancements related to its access authorization process, including communicating the underlying facts of the violation to all AREVA employees, as well as staff at other U.S. AREVA licensed facilities to emphasize lessons learned from this incident.

In consideration of the above commitments, the NRC agreed to refrain from proposing a civil penalty and issuing a Notice of Violation or other enforcement action for the matters discussed in the NRC's letter to AREVA of February 11, 2009 (EA-08-278), and three additional examples in which the former security officer inappropriately signed for an authorizing individual. These examples were identified by AREVA during its review of this matter.

The schedule of notification and issuance:

Telephone Notification of Licensee	July 23, 2009
Mailing of Order	July 23, 2009

The State of Washington will be notified.

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Distribution: EN-09-033, July 20, 2009

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