

January 27, 2010

MEMORANDUM TO: Michael D. Tschiltz, Deputy Director
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

THRU: Brian W. Smith, Chief **/RA/ T. Johnson for**
Uranium Enrichment Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: Timothy C. Johnson, Project Manager **/RA/**
Uranium Enrichment Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: JANUARY 8, 2010, TELEPHONE SUMMARY: GENERAL
ELECTRIC-HITACHI REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION RESPONSES

On January 8, 2010, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a telephone conference call with staff from General Electric-Hitachi (GEH) to discuss proposed responses to Requests for Additional Information in the Nuclear Criticality Safety area applicable to the GEH application for a laser-based uranium enrichment facility.

Enclosed is the telephone summary for your use. No proprietary or classified information is discussed.

CONTACT: Timothy Johnson, NMSS/FCSS
301-492-3121

Docket No.: 70-7016

Enclosure: GEH Telephone Summary

cc: William Szymanski/DOE
Patricia Campbell/GEH
Robert Brown/GEH
Tammy Orr/GEH
Mike Giles/CFC
Tom Clements/FOTE
David Springer/CFRW
Stephen Rynas/NCDENR
Jennifer Braswell/New Hanover County
Christopher O'Keefe/New Hanover County
Lafayette Atkinson/NCOSH
Albert Kennedy/GEH
Bruce Shell/New Hanover County
Marty Lawing/Brunswick County
George Brown/Pender County
Bill Saffo/Wilmington
Malissa Talbert/Wilmington
Wanda Lagoe/NCOSH
Cameron Weaver/NCDENR
Emily Hughes/USACE
Lee Cox/NCDENR
David Weaver/New Hanover County
Julie Olivier/GEH

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Stephen Rynas/NCDENR	Emily Hughes/USACE
Jennifer Braswell/New Hanover County	Lee Cox/NCDENR
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Lafayette Atkinson/NCOSH	Julie Olivier/GEH
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Telephone Conference Call Summary

General Electric-Hitachi Uranium Enrichment Facility Requests for Additional Information Proposed Nuclear Criticality Safety Responses

DATE AND TIME: January 4, 2010; 11:30 AM

CALL PARTICIPANTS:

B. Purnell/NRC	J. Olivier/GEH
B. Smith/NRC	L. Paulson/GEH
T. Johnson/NRC	Qi Ao/GEH

On January 4, 2010, a conference call between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and General Electric-Hitachi (GEH) staffs was held to discuss proposed responses to the Requests for Additional Information (RAIs) in the Nuclear Criticality Safety area applicable to GEH's license application for a laser-based uranium enrichment facility. The RAIs applicable to this conference call had been transmitted to GEH on December 4, 2009.

DISCUSSION:

GEH staff discussed its proposed responses to the four RAI questions regarding the nuclear criticality safety computer code validation report. GEH staff stated that it does not use a normalization method when it uses non-critical benchmark experiments. GEH staff indicated it is currently not planning on using neutron absorbers, but agreed to consider changing its license application to increase the minimum margin of subcriticality (MMS) to 0.05 to bound existing bias uncertainty for select neutron absorbers. GEH staff indicated that it would revise the validation report to include benchmark uncertainties and address the neutron absorber MMS issue, and provide it to the NRC in response to these questions.

NRC staff indicated that it appears the proposed responses will provide the information needed.

ACTION ITEMS: None