

March 5, 2010

Mr. Steven A. Toelle  
Director, Regulatory Affairs  
U. S. Enrichment Corporation  
2 Democracy Center  
6903 Rockledge Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20817

SUBJECT: SOLICITATION OF INTEREST FOR NATIONAL LEVEL EXERCISE 2011 -  
PADUCAH AND PORTSMOUTH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANTS

Dear Mr. Toelle:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is in the process of planning and soliciting participants for its participation in the Department of Homeland Security sponsored National Level Exercise (NLE) 2011. This exercise will simulate significant seismic activity of the New Madrid fault in the central region of the United States. Enclosure 1 shows the location of the fault and potentially affected sites. The NRC will be participating on a 24-hour basis from May 16 through May 20, 2011, testing its response capabilities, including communications, Federal coordination, and multiple event response. The events simulated to occur during this exercise could range from notifications of unusual events to large scale accidents due to tremors and earthquakes. NRC-licensed facilities that participate will set their own participation time limits.

Coordination among NRC-licensed facilities will be led by the Division of Preparedness and Response in the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response; however, specifics regarding your facility's scenario should be developed by your emergency response program. The NRC does not anticipate that your participation would last for the full five-day exercise, nor do we expect you to provide 24 hour coverage for the exercise.

As part of the initial planning, the staff is soliciting potential interest in participation from NRC regulated facilities.

If your facility is interested in participating in NLE 2011, or you would like more information regarding participation, please contact me at (301) 492-3217, or via e-mail to [tilda.liu@nrc.gov](mailto:tilda.liu@nrc.gov). If there is sufficient interest in participating in the NLE, the NRC will coordinate activities and level-of-play with interested licensees and certificate holders.

In accordance with Title 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* 2.390 of the NRC's "Rule of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Tilda Y. Liu, Senior Project Manager  
Advanced Fuel Cycle, Enrichment,  
and Uranium Conversion Branch  
Special Projects and Technical  
Support Directorate  
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety  
and Safeguards  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Enclosure: As stated

Docket Nos: 70-7001 and 70-7002  
Certificate Nos: GDP-1 and GDP-2

cc: Randall M. DeVault, DOE-Oak Ridge  
Douglas Fogel, Portsmouth  
Vernon Shanks, Paducah

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**/RA/**

Tilda Y. Liu, Senior Project Manager  
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Special Projects and Technical  
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Division of Fuel Cycle Safety  
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