

November 9, 2010

MEMORANDUM TO: David Skeen, Acting Deputy Director
Environmental Protection
and Performance Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

FROM: Jennifer A. Davis, Senior Project Manager **/RA/**
Environmental Review Branch B
Environmental Protection
and Performance Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 3, 2010, TELECONFERENCE SUMMARY:
REGARDING THE PROPOSED GENERAL ELECTRIC-HITACHI
GLOBAL LASER ENRICHMENT FACILITY

On September 3, 2010, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff participated in a teleconference with General Electric-Hitachi staff. A summary of this teleconference and the list of participants are enclosed for your use. This summary contains no proprietary or classified information.

Docket No.: 70-7016

Enclosures:

1. Teleconference Summary
2. List of Participants

cc: See next page

CONTACT: Jennifer A. Davis, FSME/DWMEP
301-415-3835

MEMORANDUM TO: David Skeen, Acting Deputy Director
Environmental Protection
and Performance Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

FROM: Jennifer A. Davis, Senior Project Manager
Environmental Review Branch B
Environmental Protection
and Performance Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 3, 2010, TELECONFERENCE SUMMARY:
REGARDING THE PROPOSED GENERAL ELECTRIC-HITACHI
GLOBAL LASER ENRICHMENT FACILITY

On September 3, 2010, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff participated in a teleconference with General Electric-Hitachi staff. A summary of this teleconference and the list of participants are enclosed for your use. This summary contains no proprietary or classified information.

Docket No.: 70-7016

Enclosures:

1. Teleconference Summary
2. List of Participants

cc: See next page

CONTACT: Jennifer A. Davis, FSME/DWMEP
301-415-3835

DISTRIBUTION:

L. Camper/FSME	K. McConnell/FSME	J. Davis/FSME	R. Virgilio/FSME
H. Yilma/FSME	K. Hsueh/FSME	J. Hull/OGC	C. Safford/OGC
C. Scott/OGC	M. Simon/OGC	D. McIntyre/OPA	S. Echols/FCSS
K. Everly/NSIR	J. Weil/OCA	B. Reilly/ECB	B. Smith/FCSS
M. Tschiltz/FCSS	T. Johnson/FCSS	C. Taylor/Reg II	D. Seymour/Reg II
J. Henson/Reg II	M. Lesser/Reg II	R. Hannah/Reg II	G. Woodruff/Reg II

ML103060397

OFC	ERB-B	ERB-B	NMSS/FCSS	ERB-B	ERB-B
NAME	JDavis	TMoon	JTimothy for BSmith email	KHsueh	JDavis
DATE	11/4/10	11/5/10	11/5/10	11/9/10	11/9/10

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

cc w/enclosures:

William Szymanski/DOE
Patricia Campbell/GEH
Jerald Head/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

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

**SUMMARY OF U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION TELECONFERENCE
REGARDING THE PROPOSED GENERAL ELECTRIC-HITACHI GLOBAL LASER
ENRICHMENT FACILITY**

Date: September 3, 2010

Participants: See Enclosure 2

Purpose:

On September 3, 2010, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff and its contractor from Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) conducted a conference call (teleconference) with a representative from General Electric-Hitachi Global Laser Enrichment, LLC (GLE) to discuss additional information needs. The NRC staff issued the draft *Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed GE-Hitachi Global Laser Enrichment LLC Facility in Wilmington, North Carolina* (NUREG-1938) in June 2010. The teleconference was held to request additional clarification to aide in developing the final environmental impact statement. Enclosure 2 contains a listing of teleconference participants.

The NRC staff will consider all comments on the draft environmental impact statement and make any necessary revisions to the document prior to issuing its final environmental impact statement, scheduled for February 2011.

No staff decisions were made during the teleconference.

Discussion:

NRC staff requested additional information in the topics listed below.

Schedule:

During a management meeting between NRC staff and GLE representatives on September 1, 2010, GLE stated that its schedule for preconstruction and construction activities, startup/operation would be delayed. NRC staff requested the revised schedule.

GLE stated that the revised schedule indicates that preconstruction activities will commence in 2012. However, this depends on when or if GLE receives an NRC license. Additionally, GLE stated that project milestones and funding are tied to test loop activities. GLE's earliest estimate would have facility operations starting in 2014.

Waste Minimization:

NRC staff asked if GLE has developed a waste minimization plan.

Enclosure 1

GLE has a commitment to draft a waste minimization plan (see Chapter 9 of the license application, specifically Section 9.2.1.4). Section 9.2.1.4 discusses GLE's commitment to abide by limits specified in 10 CFR Part 20.1406. GLE also commits to following guidance specified in Regulatory Guide 4.21 to develop a waste minimization plan for both radiological and hazardous waste. No exact plan has been developed. A final plan will be developed once the final facility design is finalized.

Once developed, the plan will be a living document and will incorporate the lessons-learned from General Electric's (GE's) existing Fuel Manufacturing Facility Operations.

Onsite Storage of Depleted UF₆:

NRC staff requested clarification on the anticipated length of time over which the depleted UF₆ cylinders would be stored at the on-site storage pads. The staff also requested additional information regarding options for the disposition of the depleted UF₆ generated at the proposed GLE Facility.

GLE stated that onsite storage of depleted UF₆ will be limited by storage capacity. The planned storage pad will accommodate depleted UF₆ generated from 10 years of facility operations. There will be a license condition limiting the amount of depleted UF₆ stored onsite. GLE plans to ship the depleted UF₆ cylinders to Department of Energy's (DOE) depleted UF₆ conversion facilities at Portsmouth, Ohio, or Paducah, Kentucky, before on-site storage capacity is reached. Other disposal options may become available if commercial conversion facilities come online.

Recycling:

NRC staff requested information regarding the extent and feasibility of recycling and reuse at the proposed GLE Facility.

GLE stated that recycling of process oils has been incorporated into the GLE facility design. No formal recycling plan has been developed. GE currently sends used office supplies, paper products, plastic products, aluminum cans, and printer cartridges offsite for recycling. Global Nuclear Fuels-America Fuel Manufacturing Operation (GNF) recovers hydrofluoric acid from its dry conversion process and sells it to an offsite vendor, thus eliminating that waste stream. GLE further stated that GE corporate policy encourages recycling.

Air Quality:

NRC staff requested information regarding energy efficiency during construction and operation, to help mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.

GLE stated that GE uses alternative fuel vehicles at the Wilmington site whenever possible, and employees are encouraged to limit combustibles due to the nature of activities at the site.

USACE Permit:

NRC staff asked when GLE intends to apply for a Section 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

GLE will apply for a Section 404 permit when they are closer to construction. Three jurisdictional wetlands and one isolated wetland will be impacted due to road construction. There may be other stream crossings.

Water Quality and Use:

NRC staff requested additional detail on the groundwater drawdown area. GLE referred the staff to Figure 4.4-9 in the GLE environmental report.

NRC staff requested additional detail on the quantity of water required for operation of the GLE closed-loop cooling tower. GLE responded that the quantity of water through the tower will be fixed (as noted in the draft EIS). GLE agreed to look into the water balance and report back to NRC.

NRC staff asked if GLE has established a groundwater monitoring plan. GLE responded that a plan will be in place prior to the commencement of construction activities. To date, no plan has been drafted. This would fall under the programmatic plan. This could become a license condition.

Environmental Justice:

NRC staff asked if GE has any community outreach programs, especially to low income or minority populations. GE does not have any such program, but GE has a tutoring program with local elementary and middle schools. GE has a cooperative agreement with Cape Fear Community College for training future GNF-A operators, and there are plans to expand this program to include the proposed GLE facility.

NRC staff asked if GE has a community advisory group. GLE stated that there is presently no such group, but GE has a presence on several local boards in the Wilmington area.

NRC staff requested information on how GE handles complaints from the local community. GLE had no knowledge of any complaints received, but noted that GE has established a process for resolving public complaints via their public outreach working group. GE also conducts public meetings and workshops.

Action Items:

None

Teleconference Participants

September 3, 2010

NAME	AFFILIATION
Jennifer Davis	NRC
Haimanot Yilma	NRC
Halil Avci	Argonne National Laboratory
Karl Fischer	Argonne National Laboratory
Julie Olivier	GLE
Joseph Alexander	RTI