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NRC Performance Review of Certified Activities

Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant

October 14, 2010
PUBLIC MEETING

Attachment 7

Introduction

Bob Van Namen

Senior Vice President
Uranium Enrichment

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USEC Perspective on Performance

Mark Keef
General Manager

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Overview of Performance

- U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) review covered period from July 6, 2008 through July 10, 2010.
- Topical areas of Safety Operations, Safeguards, Radiological Controls, Facility Support, and Special Topics were reviewed.
- The NRC identified no areas needing improvement.
- USEC maintained a strong focus on safe, compliant operations during the assessment period and continues that focus as we move forward with current and future opportunities.

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Safety Operations

- Nuclear Safety performance continues to be integrated into daily operations. Significant improvements continue to be seen in the following areas:
  - Technical Safety Requirements (TSR) Compliance: TSRs define the conditions, boundaries, and management or administrative controls to ensure safe plant operation.
  - Event Reports: Written reports for those items that are reportable to the NRC in accordance with federal regulations or the plant Certificate of Compliance.
  - Nuclear Criticality Safety (NCS) Incident: Incidents where fissionable material is not processed, stored, or handled in accordance with established NCS requirements.

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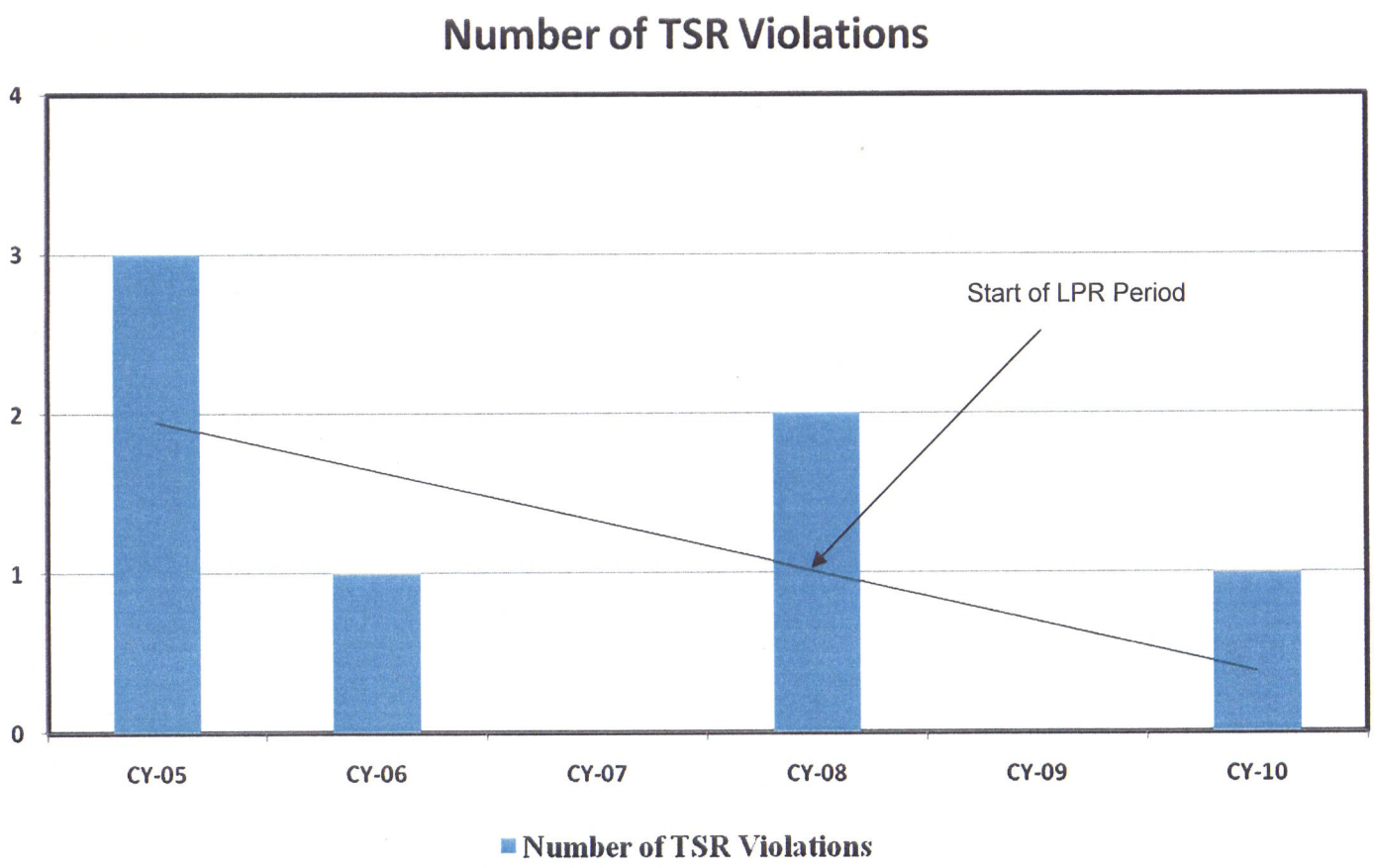
Safety Operations



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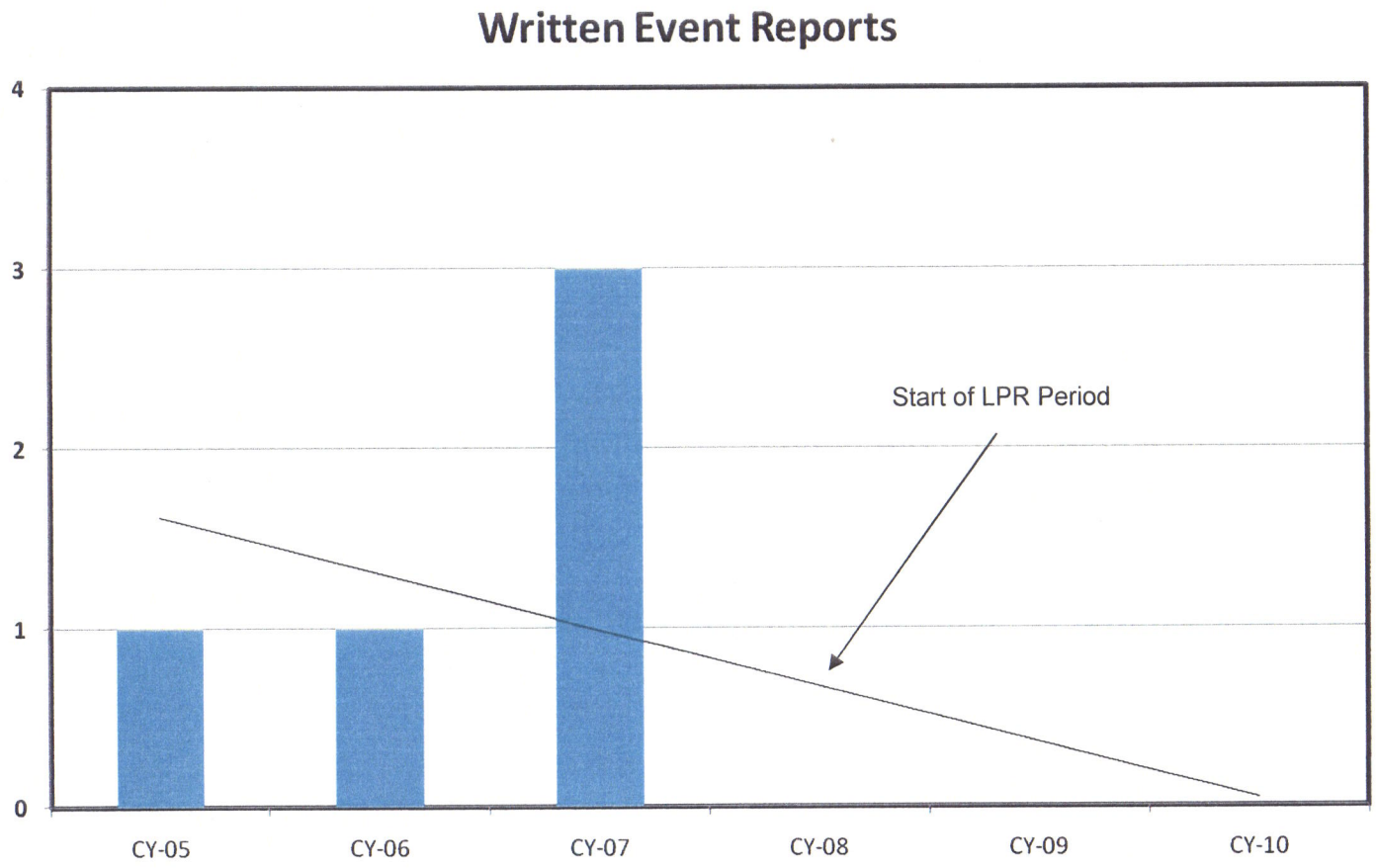
Safety Operations



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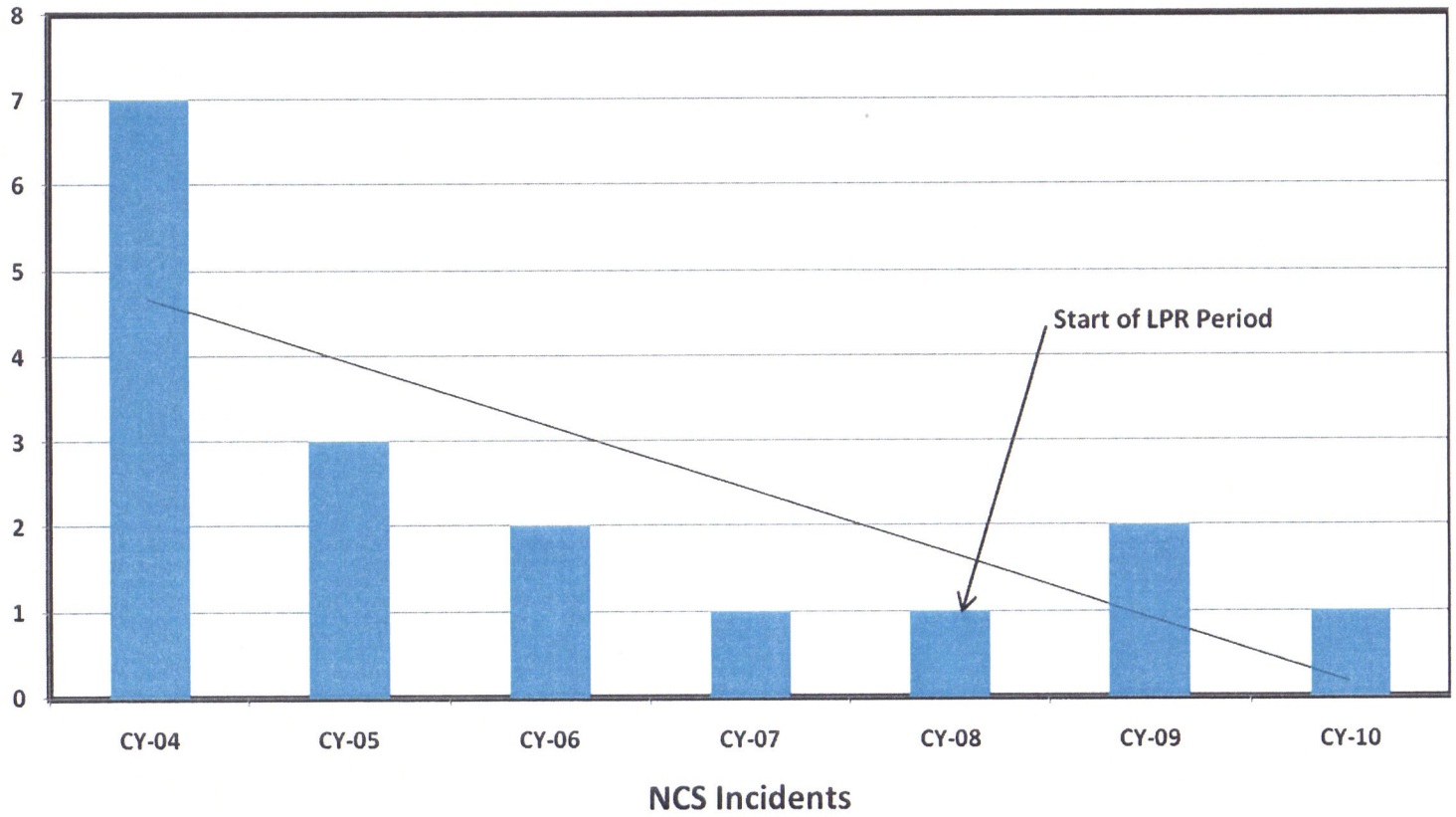
Safety Operations

NCS Incidents



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Safety Operations

- Significant Human performance errors continue to decrease
  - Annual average decreased from a high of 6 per month in 2007 to two the 1st half of CY2010

- Efforts to continue this trend include:
  - Monitoring of near miss and pre-cursor events
  - Increased focus on procedure adherence
  - Proactive responses to leading indicators
  - Human Performance error reduction training.

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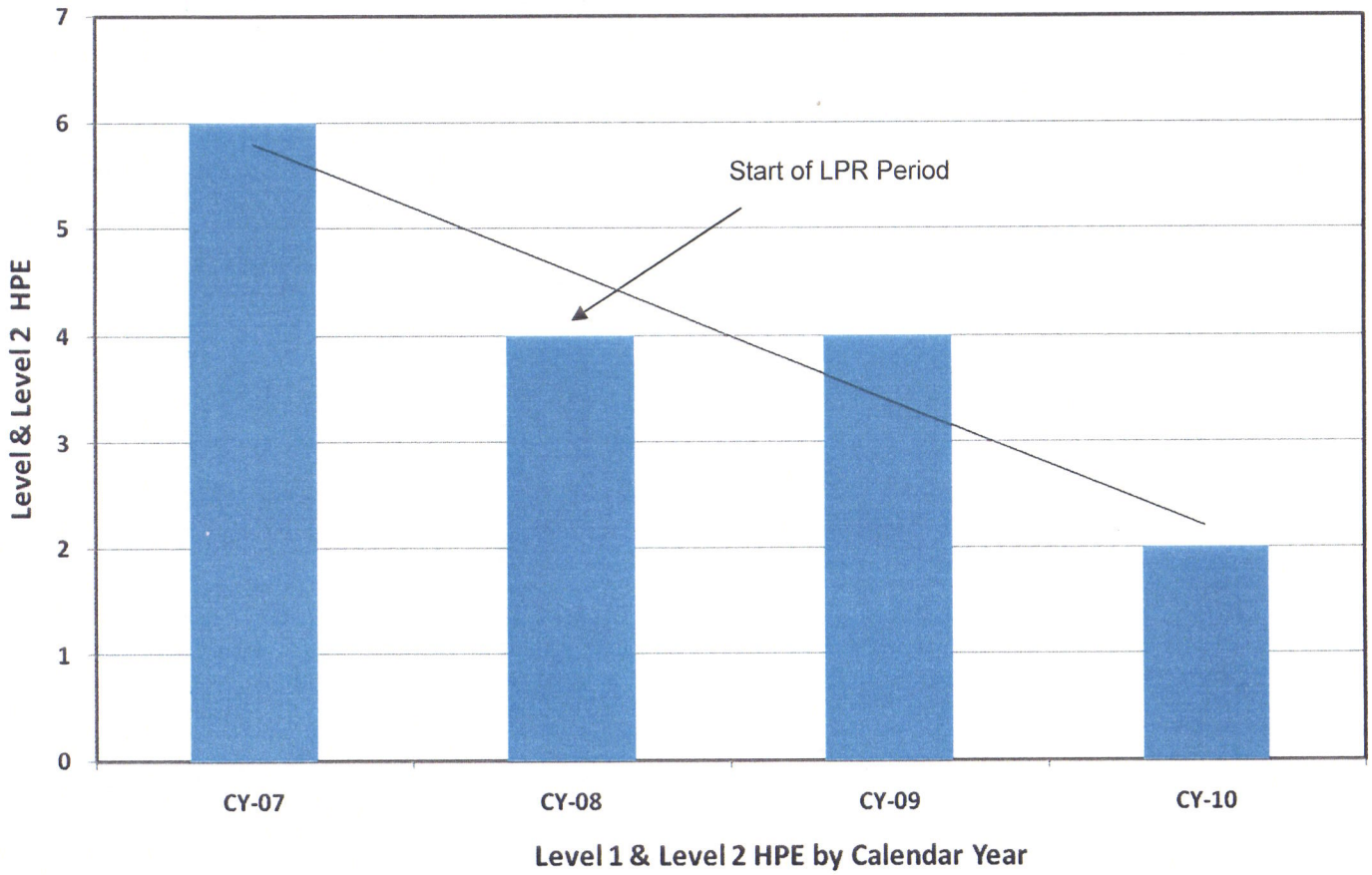
Safety Operations

Human Performance Errors (HPE)



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Safeguards

Nuclear Materials Control and Accountability:

- Continue to successfully monitor facility inventory to ensure no diversion of nuclear materials
- Implemented new tracking system as part of the new nationwide inventory monitoring program

Security:

- Transitioned West Access gate to North Access gate to accommodate ODOT construction associated with the new Industrial Park
- Protective Force completed two major DOE inspections and remains fully compliant with all regulatory requirements

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Radiological Controls

- Reduction in personnel exposure to radiation following completion of Technetium Removal Project.
- Focus on minimization of internal exposure during uranium recovery projects.
- Transferred approximately 100 radioactive sources for disposal in the past two years in an effort to reduce the quantity of sources on site.
- Working to reduce the number and size of radioactive materials storage areas.
- Continued focus on Self Evaluation to strengthen Radiation Protection Program
  - Management by Walking Around
  - Procedural Adherence Surveillances
  - Boundary Inspections
  - Organization Self-Assessments
  - Publishing a series of Open Line articles detailing site requirements for contamination control and radiation protection

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Facility Support

Emergency Response Organization

- Conducted successful 2009 biennial exercise. Participants included:
  - 4 local fire department and emergency response organizations
  - 5 local Emergency Medical Service Squads
  - 1 local law enforcement agency
  - 1 local emergency management agency
  - 1 local hospital
  - 2 state agencies and 1 federal regulatory agency
  - Approximately 450 participants in the NRC graded exercise
- Resulted in no negative findings issued by the regulators

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Community Support

- Community Interaction
  - Contributed financial and technical support to Pike County Firefighters Association
  - Provided mutual aid assistance – 7 recent requests for emergency assistance
  - Received mutual aid assistance – 2 requests for emergency assistance
  - Continue to maintain Mutual Aid Agreements with Pike County Fire Fighters Association, Pike County Sheriff, area hospitals, Emergency Medical Services, and schools
  - Continue routine ongoing interface with local fire departments and Pike County Commissioners

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Future Operations

- Plant mission will change significantly following the return of the process buildings and cylinder handling facilities to DOE on 9/30/10
- Committed to an efficient and safe transition to the DOE D&D Prime Contractor
- Will continue to focus on nuclear and industrial safety

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Future Operations (cont)

- USEC mission will continue to include:
  - Site tenant support services, such as utilities and municipal services, fire protection & emergency management, security, and records management
  - Decontamination and uranium recovery operations
  - Analytical Laboratory, Non-Destructive Assay and Process Technology Services
  - Retrieval of specialty equipment for re-use at the PGDP and ACP facilities

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Summary

- USEC remains committed to safe plant operation:
  - Continued focus on Nuclear Safety, Industrial Safety, and Protection of the environment and community
  - Improvements in training
  - Continue to include worker integration and involvement in safety programs
  - Increased proactive response to pre-cursor events
- Continue efforts to maintain a strong Radiation Protection Program
- Mutual cooperation between all site contractors for safe site operations

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