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LES-11-00015-NRC

Attn: Document Control Desk
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Louisiana Energy Services, LLC
NRC Docket No. 70-3103

Subject: License Amendment Request to Revise License Condition 13 (LAR 10-13)

In accordance with 10 CFR 70.34, URENCO USA (UUSA) hereby requests an amendment to Materials License SNM-2010 to revise License Condition 13 for the purpose of extending the license expiration date (LAR 10-13). Specifically, UUSA requests that License Condition 13 be changed from *"This license will expire 30 years after the date of license issuance"* to *"This license will expire 30 years after the date that the NRC authorizes the introduction of uranium hexafluoride into the first cascade at the URENCO USA Facility."*

This license amendment request (LAR 10-13) is intended to recover 48 months of operational time that was precluded under the 30-year license due to construction, pre-operational testing and the NRC operational readiness review. The background, proposed change, and basis for the proposed change to the license are provided in the Enclosure.

Should there be any questions concerning this LAR, please contact Wyatt Padgett, LES Licensing Manager, at 575.394.5257.

Respectfully,



David E. Sexton
Chief Nuclear Officer and Vice President of Operations

Enclosure: License Amendment Request (LAR 10-13) Background, Proposed Change, Basis for Change

NMS501

ENCLOSURE

License Amendment Request (LAR 10-13) Background, Proposed Change, Basis for Change

Background

On June 23, 2006, the NRC issued Materials License SNM-2010 to Louisiana Energy Services, LLC (LES), Condition 13 of which states: *"This license will expire 30 years after the date of license issuance."* On June 10, 2010, the NRC authorized the introduction of uranium hexafluoride into one of the cascades at the URENCO USA (UUSA) Facility. Thus, from the time LES (UUSA) received its materials license until the time when the NRC authorized facility operation, forty-eight (48) months out of the 30-year materials license had elapsed.

During the period between the date the NRC issued the license and the date it authorized UUSA to operate the facility, UUSA was engaged in the requisite equipment/facility construction, pre-operational testing and NRC operational readiness review. However, implementation of the latter activities, in effect, reduced the duration of UUSA's authority to "operate" the facility under the 30-year license, by 48 months.

Proposed Change

UUSA proposes changing License Condition 13 to read as follows: *"This license will expire 30 years after the date that the NRC authorizes the introduction of uranium hexafluoride into the first cascade at the URENCO USA Facility."*

Basis for Change

UUSA's basis for the License Condition 13 change (LAR 10-13) is to recapture the 48 months expended during the construction, pre-operational testing and NRC operational readiness review, by obtaining an equivalent (48-month) extension of the license expiration period. This basis is consistent the precedent set previously by other Fuel Cycle Facility and Reactor Facility licensees (see under Justification below).

Safety Significance

There is no safety significance associated with the proposed license amendment since the change does not impact any hazards evaluations or accident analyses previously conducted to support the affected license condition.

Environmental Considerations

There are no environmental impacts associated with the change proposed in this LAR. The proposed change does not meet the criteria specified in 10 CFR 51.60(b)(2) since it does not involve an expansion of the site, a change in the amounts of effluents, and increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure, or an increase in potential for or consequences from radiological accidents. Consequently a separate supplement to the Environmental report is not being submitted.

Justification

The proposed license change warrants justification on the basis that similar license expiration date extensions have been previously granted to both fuel cycle (Part 70) and reactor (Part 50) facility licensees, as evidenced by the following documents:

1. Letter from M. Tschiltz (NRC) to P. Miner (USEC), NRC Approval of USEC Inc. Request to Amend Facility License SNM-7003 to Recapture the Construction and Testing Time before Facility Operation, dated October 30, 2008 (10 CFR 70 Licensee)
2. Grand Gulf Nuclear Station 1 – Issuance of amendment Re: Extension of Expiration Date of Operating License, dated April 26, 1999 (10 CFR 50 Licensee)
3. Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station Units 1, 2, and 3, Docket Nos. 50-528/529/530, Request for Amendment to Facility Operating Licenses NPG-41, NPF-51 and NPF-74 to Recapture Low-Power Testing Time, dated August 28, 2002 (10 CFR 50 Licensee)
4. Seabrook Station License Amendment Request: 05-01, Request for Amendment to Facility Operating NPF-86, Recapture of Zero-Power and Low-Power Testing Time, dated March 28, 2005 (10 CFR 50 Licensee)
5. Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2, License Amendment Request 05-03, Request for Amendment to recapture Low-Power Testing Time, dated August 23, 2005 (10 CFR 50 Licensee)