



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION II  
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

July 27, 2012

Mr. Dominique Grandemange  
Site Manager  
AREVA NP, Inc.  
2101 Horn Rapids Road  
Richland, WA 99354-0130

SUBJECT: AREVA NP, INC (RICHLAND) – NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 070-01257/2012-003

Dear Mr. Grandemange:

This refers to the inspection conducted from April 30 through May 3, 2012, at the AREVA NP, INC facility in Richland, Washington. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized under the license were conducted safely and in accordance with Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requirements. The enclosed report presents the results of this inspection. The findings were discussed with members of your staff at an exit meeting held on May 3, 2012, for this inspection report.

During the inspection, the NRC staff examined activities conducted under your license as they relate to public health and safety as well as compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations and with the conditions of your license. Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the enclosed report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations of activities, and interviews with personnel.

The inspection covered the following areas: Management Organization and Controls and Operator Training. No findings of significance were identified.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

D. Grandemange

2

Should you have any questions concerning the inspection, please contact us.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Marvin D. Sykes, Chief  
Fuel Facility Inspection Branch 3  
Division of Fuel Facility Inspection

Docket No. 70-1257  
License No. SNM-1227

Enclosure:  
NRC Inspection Report 70-1257/2012-003  
w/Attachment: Supplementary Information

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

D. Grandemange

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X PUBLICLY AVAILABLE       NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE       SENSITIVE      X NON-SENSITIVE  
ADAMS: x Yes      ACCESSION NUMBER: ML12209A291      X SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE  FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DFFI	RII:DFFI	RII:DFFI				
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D. Grandemange

3

cc w/encl:

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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION II

Docket No.: 70-1257

License No.: SNM-1227

Report No.: 70-1257/2012-003

Licensee: AREVA NP, Inc.

Facility: Richland, Washington

Location: 2101 Horn Rapids Road  
Richland, Washington 99352

Dates: April 30 through May 3, 2012

Inspectors: P. Glenn, Fuel Facility Inspector (Section A.2)  
C. Rivera, Fuel Facility Inspector-In-Training (Section A.1)

Approved by: M. Sykes, Chief  
Fuel Facility Branch 3  
Division of Fuel Facility Inspection

Enclosure

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

AREVA NP, Inc.  
NRC Inspection Report No. 70-1257/2012-003

An inspection was conducted by regional inspectors during normal shifts in the area of facility support. The inspectors performed a selective examination of licensee activities that were accomplished by direct observation of safety-significant activities and equipment, tours of the facility, interviews and discussions with licensee personnel, and a review of facility records.

### **Facility Support**

- The Management Organization program was implemented in accordance with the license and regulatory requirements. (Paragraph A.1)
- The training program was implemented in accordance with the license and regulatory requirements. (Paragraph A.2)

### **Attachment**

Key Points of Contact  
List of Items Opened and Closed  
Inspection Procedures Used  
Documents Reviewed

## **REPORT DETAILS**

### **Summary of Plant Status**

The AREVA Richland facility converts uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>) into uranium dioxide for the fabrication of low-enriched fuel assemblies used in commercial nuclear power reactors. Normal production activities were ongoing.

### **A. Facility Support**

#### **1. Management Organization and Controls (IP 88005)**

##### **a. Inspection Scope and Observations**

The inspectors interviewed several senior managers, managers, supervisors to verify that the management team understood the plant policy for safety and management responsibilities as defined by the license. The inspectors reviewed changes in personnel that occurred within the past year. The inspectors verified that the personnel selected met the qualifications as required by the license application. Through interviews, the inspectors verified that the newly appointed individuals were aware of and implementing their assigned responsibilities and functions.

The inspectors verified the licensee's control of procedures through discussions with licensee staff. The inspectors reviewed several procedures that were revised in the past year to ensure that they were reviewed and approved in accordance with the licensee's procedure development and review requirements.

The inspectors reviewed the licensee's problem identification and resolution program to determine if the program was being conducted in accordance with approved procedures and the license application. The inspectors observed a management meeting in which the safety significance and classification was assigned to each item in the corrective action program. The inspectors reviewed the Chemical Safety and Training and Qualification Internal Audits Reports and determined that the audits were conducted at the frequency required by the license. The inspectors reviewed recent incident investigations conducted by the licensee and determined that they were conducted in accordance with approved procedures.

The inspectors reviewed safety committee meeting minutes and verified that the committees were operating per the requirements of implementing procedures.

The inspectors verified that the licensee's quality assurance program was being implemented in accordance with the license application.

##### **b. Conclusion**

No findings of significance were identified.

## **2. Operator Training (IP 88010)**

### **a. Inspection Scope and Observations**

The inspectors reviewed the Operator Training program and evaluated the program against the license application. The inspectors interviewed the licensee on changes to the training program during the past year and reviewed applicable procedure revisions. The inspectors determined that changes made were in accordance with the license application and approved procedures.

While conducting walk-downs in the process areas, the inspectors interviewed and discussed training with select staff in a variety of positions in the uranium conversion and ceramics areas. The staff interviewed included operators, floor leads, area supervisors, a criticality safety engineer, and an area manager. The inspectors observed skills training, continuing training, and on the job training being conducted with various employees. Additionally, the inspectors interviewed the training instructors and or evaluators and determined that the training was in accordance with the license application and approved procedures.

The inspectors reviewed lesson plans and examinations. The inspectors verified that key points from the lesson plans were incorporated into the examinations. The inspectors determined that trainee understanding and command of learning objectives were evaluated as required. The inspectors reviewed nuclear criticality safety and radiation protection training and determined that the training was being administered at the required frequency and included the requirements in 10 CFR 19.12.

The inspectors reviewed the training history of several new and experienced employees in the ceramics and uranium conversion areas to verify that training, including on-the-job training, was being conducted and that operator proficiency was being maintained. Additionally, the inspectors observed shift turnover and verified that non-qualified operators were provided training instructions and paired with a qualified operator.

### **b. Conclusion**

No violations of NRC requirements were identified.

## **C. Exit Meeting Summary**

The inspection scope and results were presented to members of the licensee's staff at various meetings throughout the inspection period and were summarized on May 3, 2012, to D. Grandemange and staff. No dissenting comments were received from the licensee. Proprietary information was discussed but not included in the report.



## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

### 1. LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title/Area</u>
T. Cross	Corrective Actions Manager
D. Grandemange	Site Manager
E. Hockens	Fuel and Bundle Manager
C. Holman	Quality Assurance Manager
L. Hope	Training Manager
R. Link	Environmental, Health, Safety, and Licensing Manager
L. Maas	Licensing and Compliance Manager
C. Manning	Criticality Safety Manager
A. Pryor	Ceramics Supervisor
K. Schull	Uranium Conversion and Recovery Operations Manager
L. Stephens	Richland Operations Manager
T. Tate	Safety, Security, and Emergency Preparedness Manager
J. Veysey	Plant Engineering Technical Support and Maintenance Manager

### 2. LIST OF ITEMS OPENED AND CLOSED

None

### 3. INSPECTION PROCEDURES USED

IP 88005, Management Organization and Controls  
IP 88010, Operator Training

### 4. DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

#### Records:

Training Curriculum Status and Data Reports - Various Positions  
Operator Training Records - Various Positions

#### Procedures:

1703-76, Issue Investigation and Causal Analysis, Rev. 016, dated January 18, 2012  
1703-77, US Fuel BU Corrective Action Program, Rev. 029, dated September 7, 2011  
E-12-01-003, Environmental, Health, Safety and Licensing Audit and Assessment Program,  
Rev. 5  
US Fuel Business Training Process Procedure, Rev. 006, dated March 14, 2012  
Resource Management - Quality Section, Rev. 003, dated January 26, 2012  
Management Control Procedure, Construction or Modification Change Control, MCP-30379,  
Version 10.0  
Standard Operating Procedure, Fuel Bundle Inspection, Version 6.1  
Standard Operating Procedure, Solvent Extraction Process, Version 17.0

Condition Reports Reviewed:

CR-2012-1554-FA  
CR-2012-400-FA  
CR-2012-3025-FA  
CR-2012-3094-FA  
CR-2012-3365-FA  
CR-2012-3342-FA  
CR-2011-9377-FA  
CR-2011-9377-FA  
CR-2011-3213-FA  
CR-2011-42299-FA

Other Documents:

Audit No. 12:19, Fuel America Internal Audit Report  
2012-12:03, Biannual Chemical Safety Audit, dated February 29, 2012  
E-19-05-001, Richland Manufacturing Facility Environmental Health and Safety Policy,  
Rev. 3  
Training and Qualification Audit Report, dated December 22, 2011  
Standard Work Instruction Grinder, Version 10.0  
Instructor Guide - OJT Radiological Worker Safety Training Practical, Rev. 4, dated  
February 16, 2007  
OJT Checklist - Rod Bundle, Rev. 001, dated February 24, 2012  
Continuing Training Evaluation - Rod Bundle, Rev. 000, dated May 6, 2011  
OJT Checklist - Waste Operations, Rev. 001, dated February 24, 2012  
2012 PERT Training (Hazmat Spill Response and Decontamination) - Lesson Plan  
Nuclear Criticality Safety Training for New Fissile Workers - Instructors Guide, Rev. 3, June  
2007  
HRR Site Access Training  
Radiological Worker Initial Safety Training  
U.S. Fuel Training Monthly Report, January 2012  
Apparent Cause Analysis - CR 2011-321