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

March 20, 2014

MEMORANDUM TO: Frederick D. Brown,
Deputy Regional Administrator for Construction

FROM: Deborah A. Seymour, Chief **/RA/**
Construction Projects Branch 1
Division of Construction Projects (DCP)

SUBJECT: REPORT ON TRIP TO THE MIXED OXIDE FUEL FABRICATION FACILITY (MFFF)

DATE OF VISIT: March 5-6, 2014

PURPOSE OF VISIT:
The purpose of this trip was to receive an update on the project status from Mel Shannon, the NRC Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility (MFFF) senior resident inspector (SRI); meet with Shaw AREVA MOX Services (MOX Services) and National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) management; and to present Mel Shannon with his mid-year performance review.

MOX SERVICES SENIOR MANAGERS CONTACTED:
Kelly Trice, President/Chief Operating Officer
Dealis Gwyn, Licensing Manager
Rodney Whitley, Vice President Project Assurance

NNSA MANAGER CONTACTED:
Scott Canon, Federal Project Director

OBSERVATIONS:
I met with MOX Services and NNSA managers to discuss project status, the construction schedule, and whether the planned construction activities supported replacing the SRI when Mel Shannon's term at the MFFF was complete. The MOX Services' and NNSA managers believed that it was important to replace the SRI as long as construction continued, even if it continued at a reduced pace (as in fiscal year (FY) 2014 to date).

As a result of the March 4 statement in the President's budget that it was providing funding to place the MFFF into cold-standby, I also asked for information on the implications of this statement (who, what, when, and how). At the time of this meeting, MOX Services' managers did not know the definition of cold standby, or what it could entail. They believed the final decision(s) on whether MFFF continued construction would be political.

CONTACT: Deborah Seymour RII/DCP
404-997-4476

OBSERVATIONS: (continued)
Kelly Trice said that MOX Services would be required to follow the directions contained in a letter to them from the Department of Energy/NNSA. As of March 19, this letter had not been received. I also met with Scott Canon (NNSA). At the time of this meeting, Scott Canon believed that the letter would be issued in the near-term and that it would direct that construction be stopped in FYs 2014 and 2015. The MOX Services and NNSA managers believed it would not be necessary to replace the SRI if construction was halted.

OTHER COMMENTS:
Scott Canon said he thought Mel Shannon was an asset to the NRC and was doing a very good job as the NRC senior resident inspector. He also said he enjoyed working with Mel, that he and Mel "thought alike," and that Mel was knowledgeable and a good communicator.

Docket No.: 70-3098
Construction Authorization No.: CAMOX-001

cc: D. Tiktinsky, NMSS
V. McCree, RII
J. Munday, RII
J. Yerokun, RII
M. Shannon, RII

Distribution:
Docket Files

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ADAMS: ■ Yes ACCESSION NUMBER: ML14079A136 ■ SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE

OFFICE	RII:DCP	RII:DCP					
SIGNATURE	DAS	JTM					
NAME	D. Seymour	J. Munday					
DATE	03/20/2014	03/19/2014					
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

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