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

Louisiana Energy Services, LLC NRC Docket Number: 70-3103

Subject:

Request NRC Operational Readiness Review of SBM1005

Tony Gody:

The purpose of this letter is to request an NRC Operational Readiness Review of SBM-1005. This letter serves to meet the requirements of materials license, SNM-2010, condition 11, 120 day notice of UUSA's plan to introduce UF6 into SBM-1005. Upon successful completion of the SBM1005 ORR, UUSA will submit a request for NRC authorization to initiate feed inlet and commence operation of Assay 5 Cascade 5.1 and subsequent cascades upon successful completion of IROFSC23 surveillances.

Upon initial licensing of UUSA, the facility description included three separation building modules (SBM). All initial License Basis Documents (LBD), NUREG-1790 (EIS) and NUREG-1827 (SER) described this three SBM layout. The NRC analysis summarized in both of these NUREG documents considered all construction activities related to the erection of three SBMs (1001, 1003, 1005) as described in UUSA's initial LBDs. The analyses also considered the operation of the three SBMs. The conclusion was that UUSA could safely operate three SBMs with no significant impact on the environment. The three SBM layout is in the environmental footprint previously approved during initial licensing of the facility. Startup and operation of SBM1005 with natural feed material does not modify or invalidate the original licensing conclusions.

The UUSA license basis contains reference to SBM 1005. As written, assays in SBM1005, like those in SBM1001 and SBM1003, will operate with natural UF6 feed, containing approximately 0.711% uranium 235. UUSA will operate under the current materials license limits for possession of total uranium, and uranium enriched in isotope U-235 up to 5.5 percent by weight. The safety analysis that was conducted and approved by the NRC as part of LAR 11-02 for IROFS C23 concluded that compliance with the performance requirements of 10 CFR Part 70.61 is met for SBM 1001, 1003, and beyond.

Prior to commencing operation of Assay 5, the following IROFS will be operable in SBM1005: IROFS16a, IROFS27e, IROFS30a, IROFS30b, IROFS30c, IROFS35, IROFS36a, IROFS38, IROFS39a, IROFS39b, IROFS39c, IROFS39d, IROFS42;

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IROFS50b, IROFS50c, IROFS50d, IROFS50e; IROFSC21; IROFSC22. IROFSC23. There will be no new IROFS utilized in the initial startup and operation of SBM1005.

Should there be any questions concerning this submittal, please contact Timothy Knowles, UUSA Licensing and Performance Assessment Manager, at 575.394.6212.

Jay Laughlin

Respectfull/

Chief Nuclear Officer and Head of Operations

CC:

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