



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

November 7, 2014

EA-14-183

Mr. Jim Pritchett  
Plant Manager  
Honeywell Metropolis Works  
P.O. Box 430  
Metropolis, IL 62960

**SUBJECT: CONFIRMATORY ACTION LETTER – HONEYWELL METROPOLIS WORKS**

Dear Mr. Pritchett:

On October 26, 2014, a uranium hexafluoride release at the Honeywell Metropolis Works Facility occurred from a cold trap in the Feed Materials Building (FMB) and subsequently released hydrogen fluoride outside the FMB. As a result of this event, Honeywell declared a plant emergency. Honeywell determined, at the time, that the event did not meet the criteria for an alert, and therefore did not notify the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Honeywell has reevaluated the event and determined that an Alert Declaration should have been made, and Honeywell has notified the NRC Operations Center of the after-the-fact emergency condition, as documented in Event Notification #50594.

Based on our onsite inspection and discussions with Honeywell staff, we understand that you have taken the following actions:

1. Shut down uranium hexafluoride production at the site. Distillation is on recycle and will remain in that condition until production resumes.
2. Initiated an internal investigation to determine the root causes, and evaluate the emergency response for the October 26, 2014, uranium hexafluoride release.

Pursuant to a followup telephone conversation between Brett Able, Vice President, Integrated Supply Chain, Performance, Materials, and Technology, Honeywell, and me on November 4, 2014, it is our understanding that you will take the following actions; which will be completed by November 14, 2014, or the dates specified below:

1. You will discuss the results of your investigation of the classification of the event and proposed corrective actions with the NRC prior to the restart of uranium hexafluoride production
2. You will review and revise your emergency preparedness procedures, if necessary, and conduct appropriate training to provide assurance that events can be classified correctly, and appropriate emergency response actions can be implemented.

3. You will demonstrate effective implementation of the emergency preparedness procedures and training during an NRC inspected exercise.

Pursuant to Section 182 of the Atomic Energy Act, 42 U.S.C. 2232, you are required to:

1. Notify me immediately, in writing, if your understanding differs from that set forth above;
2. Notify me, in writing, if for any reason you cannot complete the actions within the specified schedule, and advise me in writing of your modified schedule in advance of the change.
3. Notify me in writing, if for any reason you intend to change, deviate from, or not complete any of the documented commitments set forth above; and advise me in writing of the changes or deviations; and
4. Notify me in writing, when you have completed the actions addressed in this Confirmatory Action Letter.

Honeywell Metropolis Works will provide written responses to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II; 245 Peachtree Center Avenue NE, Suite 1200; Atlanta, GA 30303-1257.

Issuance of this Confirmatory Action Letter does not modify or amend the license of Honeywell International, Inc., and does not preclude issuance of an Order making the above commitments legally binding requirements, or requiring other actions on the part of the licensee. In addition, the NRC is not precluded from taking enforcement action for violations of NRC requirements that may have prompted the issuance of this letter.

In accordance with Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) 2.390, "Public inspections, exemptions, requests for withholding," of the NRC's "Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter, and your response, will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room, or in the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS); accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, security-related or safeguards information, so that it can be made available to the Public without redaction. If personal privacy or proprietary information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, then please provide a bracketed copy of your response that identifies the information that should be protected, and a redacted copy of your response that deletes such information. If you request withholding of such material, you must specifically identify the portions of your response that you seek to have withheld, and provide, in detail, the bases for your claim of withholding (e.g., explain why the disclosure of information will create an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or provide the information

required by 10 CFR 2.390(b) to support a request for withholding confidential commercial or financial information).

If you have any questions concerning this matter please contact James Hickey of my staff. Mr. Hickey can be reached at 404-997-4628.

Sincerely,

***/RA/***

Victor M. McCree  
Regional Administrator

Docket No. 40-3392  
License No. SUB-526

cc: (See page 4)

required by 10 CFR 2.390(b) to support a request for withholding confidential commercial or financial information).

If you have any questions concerning this matter please contact James Hickey of my staff. Mr. Hickey can be reached at 404-997-4628.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Victor M. McCree  
Regional Administrator

Docket No. 40-3392  
License No. SUB-526

cc: (See page 4)

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- B. Smith, NMSS
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- R. Russell, RII
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ADAMS:  Yes    ACCESSION NUMBER: ML14311A670     SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE     FORM 665 ATTACHED

|             |               |               |               |                |               |               |                |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| OFFICE      | RII:DFFI/BR1  | RII:DFFI      | NMSS          | NMSS           | RII:EICS      | RII:ORA       | NSIR           |
| SIGNATURE   | DJH2 for JAH5 | CFE for ATG   | MGB via e-mai | CGE via e-mail | DLG2          | SAP1          | JWA via e-mail |
| NAME        | J. Hickey     | A. Gody       | M. Bailey     | C. Erlanger    | D. Gamberoni  | S. Price      | J. Andersen    |
| DATE        | 11/ 7 /2014   | 11/ 7 /2014   | 11/ 6 /2014   | 11/ 6 /2014    | 11/ 7 /2014   | 11/ 7 /2014   | 11/ 6 /2014    |
| E-MAIL COPY | <b>YES</b> NO | <b>YES</b> NO | <b>YES</b> NO | <b>YES</b> NO  | <b>YES</b> NO | <b>YES</b> NO | <b>YES</b> NO  |
| OFFICE      | RII:DORA      | RII:ORA       |               |                |               |               |                |
| SIGNATURE   | VMM for LXW1  | VMM           |               |                |               |               |                |
| NAME        | L. Wert       | V. McCree     |               |                |               |               |                |
| DATE        | 11/ 7 /2014   | 11/ 7 /2014   |               |                |               |               |                |
| E-MAIL COPY | <b>YES</b> NO | <b>YES</b> NO |               |                |               |               |                |

cc:

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J. Pritchett

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