



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

April 9, 2015

Gary J. Laughlin, Chief Nuclear Officer  
and Head of Operations  
URENCO USA  
P.O. Box 1789  
Eunice, NM 88231

**SUBJECT: LOUISIANA ENERGY SERVICES, L.L.C., URENCO USA FACILITY, DOCKET  
NUMBER 70-3103, AUTHORIZATION TO COMMENCE RE-FEED OPERATIONS  
IN CASCADES 5.1 THROUGH 5.5**

Dear Mr. Laughlin:

This letter confirms the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) authorization to commence uranium hexafluoride re-feed operations in Cascades 5.1 through 5.5 in Separation Building Module (SBM)-1005 at the Louisiana Energy Services (LES), URENCO USA Facility located in Eunice, New Mexico. This authorization is pursuant to the provisions of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 70, Paragraph 70.32(k) and 10 CFR 40.41(g) that states, "No person may commence operation of a uranium enrichment facility until the Commission verifies through inspection that the facility has been constructed in accordance with the requirements of the license."

This NRC authorization is based on the results of construction and quality assurance inspections of various aspects of SBM-1005 including re-feed operations, as described in the inspection reports listed in the enclosure. Three of these inspection reports will not be issued at the time of this authorization. In accordance with NRC Manual Chapter 0616 (Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards Inspection Reports) Inspection Reports 70-3103/2015-002 and 70-3103/2015-003 will be issued within 45 days of completion of the associated inspection activities, and 70-3103/2015-403 will be issued within 30 days of completion of the associated inspection activities. During the 2015 operational readiness inspections of SBM-1005 including evaluation of re-feed operations, no violations of NRC requirements were identified.

The NRC staff determined that the systems, structures, and components designed to support safe re-feed operation in SBM-1005 were constructed in accordance with the requirements of your license. Specifically, our inspections provided: (1) reasonable assurance that the design, construction, and implementation of items relied on for safety (IROFS) will protect against natural phenomena and the consequences of potential accidents, (2) verification that the Quality Assurance Program was adequately implemented during construction, and (3) verification that the construction of the IROFS was completed in accordance with the documents comprising the license and the Integrated Safety Analysis.

The publically available inspection reports that describe the construction and quality assurance inspections of SBM-1005 and re-feed operations are accessible through the NRC's Public Document Room, or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.htm> using the accession numbers listed in the Enclosure.

Please note that this authorization does not apply to any Cascades other than Cascades 5.1 through 5.5 in SBM-1005, and it does not apply to processes or components associated with future phases of facility operations.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice and Procedure," this document may be accessed through ADAMS on the internet at [www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.htm](http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.htm).

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Mr. James Hickey at 404-997-4628.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Mark S. Lesser, Director  
Division of Fuel Facility Inspection

Docket No. 70-3103  
License No. SNM-2010

Enclosure:  
Construction and Quality Assurance Inspection  
Reports for SBM-1005 as they  
Pertain to Re-feed Operations

cc: (See page 3)

The publically available inspection reports that describe the construction and quality assurance inspections of SBM-1005 and re-feed operations are accessible through the NRC's Public Document Room, or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.htm> using the accession numbers listed in the enclosure.

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Mark S. Lesser, Director  
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Construction and Quality Assurance Inspection  
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cc: (See page 3)

PUBLICLY AVAILABLE       NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE       SENSITIVE       NON-SENSITIVE  
ADAMS:  Yes      ACCESSION NUMBER: ML15099A487       SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE       FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DFFI	RII: DFFI	RII:DFFI	RII: DFFI			
SIGNATURE	JHickey for	/RA/	/RA/	JDiaz for			
NAME	LPitts	JDiaz	JHickey	ABlamey			
DATE	4/9/2015	4/9/2015	4/9/2015	4/9/2015			
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY      DOCUMENT NAME: G:\DFFI\PROJECTS BRANCH 1\LES - URENCO\2015\SBM 1005 REFEED AUTHORIZATION LETTER.DOCX

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Letter to Gary J. Laughlin from Mark S. Lesser dated April 9, 2015

SUBJECT: LOUISIANA ENERGY SERVICES, L.L.C., URENCO USA FACILITY, DOCKET  
NUMBER 70-3103, AUTHORIZATION TO COMMENCE RE-FEED OPERATIONS  
IN CASCADES 5.1 THROUGH 5.5

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PUBLIC

**Construction and Quality Assurance Inspection Reports for SBM-1005 as they Pertain to Re-feed Operations**

<b>Inspection Report Number</b>	<b>ADAMS Accession Number</b>
2013-002	ML13116A175
2013-003	ML13210A291
2013-005	ML14031A285
2013-006	ML13214A141
2014-005	ML15029A031
2014-401	ML14357A526
2015-002	Pending
2015-003	Pending
2015-401	ML15050A288
2015-403	Pending