



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION II  
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

March 4, 2016

Dr. Ronald J. Land  
Site Manager, Richland Facility  
AREVA, Inc.  
2101 Horn Rapids Road  
Richland, Washington 99352

**SUBJECT: AREVA INC. – RICHLAND, LICENSEE PERFORMANCE REVIEW (NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION INSPECTION REPORT 70-1257/2016-001)**

Dear Dr. Land:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Region II and Headquarters (HQ) staff completed a review of the AREVA, Inc. fabrication facility performance in conducting NRC licensed activities. The review covered the period of January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2015. The performance of AREVA, Inc. was evaluated in the following areas: Safety Operations, Radiological Controls, Facility Support, and Other Areas. The enclosure to this letter provides the results of our review and will be used as a basis for establishing the NRC oversight program for your facility. The details regarding the Safeguards portion of the review are documented in a separate letter marked "Official Use Only" due to the sensitive nature of that information.

Overall, the staff determined that AREVA, Inc. has continued to conduct activities safely and securely, while protecting public health and the environment. Based on our review of activities, no area needing improvement was identified. Therefore, the NRC will conduct the core inspection program for a Category III Fuel Facility as described in NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 2600, "Fuel Cycle Facility Operational Safety and Safeguards Inspection Program," for the period of January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2017.

Unresolved items (URIs) were opened during the conduct of Temporary Instruction (TI) 2600/015, "Evaluation of Licensee Strategies for the Prevention and/or Mitigation of Emergencies at Fuel Facilities" (ADAMS Accession No. ML12286A284.) The NRC issued Generic Letter (GL) 2015-01: "Treatment of Natural Phenomena Hazards in Fuel Cycle Facilities" (ADAMS Accession No. ML14328A029) to request that licensees submit information to demonstrate compliance with regulatory requirements regarding the treatment of natural phenomena (NPH) events in the facilities' integrated safety assessments. AREVA, Inc. submitted this information on September 11, 2015, and NRC HQ is evaluating the response. Additional NRC inspections, beyond the core inspection hours, may be warranted to support the review of licensees' activities in response to NRC GL 2015-01. The inspections will be conducted in accordance with TI 2600/016, "Inspection of Activities Associated with NRC Generic Letter 2015-01" (ADAMS Accession No. ML15317A506.) The inspection results from the implementation of this TI will be used to follow up with previously identified URIs regarding the treatment of NPH events, and to inform the closure process of NRC GL 2015-01.

The results of our review will be discussed with you at a public meeting on April 26, 2016. During the meeting, we expect you to discuss your performance in the same major areas as evaluated by the NRC. The public meeting will be conducted via an on-line webinar as a pilot effort to improve efficiency, in accordance with SECY-16-009, "Recommendations Resulting from the Integrated Prioritization and Re-Baselining of Agency Activities" (ML16028A189).

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 2.390 of NRC's "Rules of Practice and Procedure," 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 Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), which is accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/readingrm/adams.html>.

Please refer questions and comments regarding NRC's review of your performance to Mr. Eric Michel, Chief, Projects Branch 2, by telephone at 404-997-4555.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Mark S. Lesser, Director  
Division of Fuel Facility Inspection

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

Enclosure:  
Licensee Performance Review

cc: (See page 3)

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Please refer questions and comments regarding NRC's review of your performance to Mr. Eric Michel, Chief, Projects Branch 2, by telephone at 404-997-4555.

Sincerely,  
**/RA/**  
 Mark S. Lesser, Director  
 Division of Fuel Facility Inspection

Docket No. 70-1257  
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Enclosure:  
 Licensee Performance Review

cc: (See page 3)

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 ADAMS: X Yes      ACCESSION NUMBER:ML16064A068                      X SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE X FORM 665 ATTACHED

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E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

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## LICENSEE PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOR AREVA-RICHLAND

**ASSESSMENT PERIOD: JANUARY 1, 2014 TO DECEMBER 31, 2015**

The following is a summary of the performance of AREVA, Inc. in the conduct of NRC-licensed activities.

### **PERFORMANCE AREA: SAFETY OPERATIONS**

This area is comprised of Plant Operations, Nuclear Criticality Safety, and Fire Protection.

#### **Program Areas Needing Improvement**

- No specific area needing improvement was identified in Safety Operations.

#### **Recommended NRC Inspection Effort**

- Maintain the core inspection effort in Safety Operations.

### **PERFORMANCE AREA: RADIOLOGICAL CONTROLS**

This area is comprised of Radiation Protection, Environmental Protection, Waste Management, and Transportation.

#### **Program Areas Needing Improvement**

- No specific area needing improvement was identified in Radiological Controls.

#### **Recommended NRC Inspection Effort**

- Maintain the core inspection effort in Radiological Controls.

### **PERFORMANCE AREA: FACILITY SUPPORT**

This area is comprised of Maintenance/Surveillance, Training, Emergency Preparedness, Management Organization & Controls, and Permanent Plant Modifications.

#### **Program Areas Needing Improvement**

- No specific area needing improvement was identified in Facility Support.

#### **Recommended NRC Inspection Effort**

- Maintain the core inspection effort in Facility Support.

**PERFORMANCE AREA: OTHER AREAS**

This area is comprised of special issues.

**Program Areas Needing Improvement**

- No specific area needing improvement was identified in Other Areas.

**Recommended NRC Inspection Effort**

- Maintain the core inspection effort in Other Areas.