

## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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

March 2, 2017

Mr. David Del Vecchio President and Chief Operating Officer CB&I AREVA MOX Services Savannah River Site P.O. Box 7097 Aiken, SC 29804-7097

SUBJECT: APPLICANT PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF AUTHORIZED CONSTRUCTION

ACTIVITIES FOR CB&I AREVA MOX SERVICES MIXED OXIDE FUEL

FABRICATION FACILITY, DOCKET NUMBER 70-3098

Dear Mr. Del Vecchio:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed the annual performance review of the Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel Fabrication Facility (MFFF) construction activities authorized by NRC Construction Authorization Number (No.) CAMOX-001. The NRC reviewed inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2016. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the NRC's assessment of the safety performance at your facility during this period and any changes to our planned inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined that the MFFF was being constructed in a manner that preserved public health and safety and was consistent with the Commission's rules and regulations and the conditions of CAMOX-001. Our inspections indicated that your construction program was sufficiently implemented to support ongoing construction activities. CB&I AREVA MOX Services (MOX Services) management and quality assurance oversight adequately monitored and assessed onsite construction activities. The corrective action program implementation activities, including initiation, classification, disposition, adequacy in the documentation, and trending were deemed satisfactory.

In summary, plant performance for the first two calendar quarters in 2016 at the MFFF was within Licensee Response Column (Column 1) of the Construction Action Matrix (CAM) as defined in Exhibit 1 of NRC Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 2630, Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility Construction Inspection Program, dated May 9, 2014 based on only non-cited violations being identified. Plant performance during the last two calendar quarters in 2016 remained in the Regulatory Response Column (Column 2) as described in our assessment follow-up letter of authorized construction activities for CB&I AREVA MOX Services Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility dated November 29, 2016 (ML16336A268).

The NRC plans to conduct routine inspections of the principle structures, systems, and components consistent with IMC 2630 and commensurate with on-going activities at the MFFF. In addition, the NRC plans to conduct a follow-up inspection to verify the corrective actions as described in your letter dated August 17, 2016 (ML16230A361) that addressed the apparent

violations identified in Inspection Report 07003098/2016005 (ML16207A604) which subsequently led to the Severity Level III problem identified in Inspection Report 07003098/2016006 (ML16272A4444). The NRC will conduct the follow-up inspection after you notify us that you are ready for this inspection. The NRC will inform you in separate correspondence of any updated assessment that transitions MOX Services to the Licensee Response Column (Column 1) of the NRC's IMC 2630, Exhibit 1 CAM. Due to current performance, the corrective actions already implemented by MOX Services for the Severity Level III problem noted previously and the age of the issue, project performance for this assessment period was acceptable.

It is important that you keep us apprised of any project or construction schedule changes as soon as they are identified, in order to maintain our inspection plan current. Your staff will be informed of changes and/or additions to our inspection schedule.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response (if any) will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <a href="http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html">http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html</a> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Michael Ernstes at (404) 997-4540.

Sincerely,

/RA/

William Jones, Director Division of Construction Oversight

Docket No. 70-3098

Construction Authorization No. CAMOX-001

Enclosure: Applicant Performance Review

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

#### cc w/encl:

Mr. Scott Cannon, Federal Project Director NA-262.1 P.O. Box A Aiken, SC 29802

Ms. Joyce Connery, Chairman Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board 625 Indiana Ave., NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20004

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L. Zeller Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League P.O. Box 88 Glendale Springs, NC 28629 Letter to Mr. David Del Vecchio from William Jones dated March 2, 2017

APPLICANT PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF AUTHORIZED CONSTRUCTION SUBJECT:

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FABRICATION FACILITY, DOCKET NUMBER 70-3098

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# APPLICANT PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOR CB&I AREVA MOX SERVICES ASSESSMENT PERIOD: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

The following is a summary of the relevant performance areas of CB&I AREVA MOX Services (MOX Services) in the conduct of NRC authorized construction activities.

#### I. ASSESSMENT AREA: QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM

This area is comprised of quality assurance program implementation; design and document control; control and inspection of materials, equipment and services; inspection, test control, and control of measuring and test equipment; problem identification, resolution, and corrective action; 10 CFR Part 21 reporting; and control of the electronic management data.

#### **Performance**

Past performance issues were identified in the areas of supplier evaluations and control of purchased material, equipment, and services. Due to the corrective actions already implemented by MOX Services for the Severity Level III problem noted during this assessment period, including a root cause evaluation and the age of the issue, a follow-up inspection will be conducted to verify the corrective actions as described in MOX Services letter dated August 17, 2016 (ML16230A361) that addressed the apparent violations identified in Inspection Report 07003098/2016005 (ML16207A604). Current performance warrants the routine inspection program consistent with NRC Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 2630, Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility Construction Inspection Program, dated May 9, 2014, and commensurate with on-going construction activities at the Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel Fabrication Facility (MFFF). Identified deficiencies will be addressed through MOX Services' corrective action program.

#### II. ASSESSMENT AREA: CONSTRUCTION OVERSIGHT

This area is comprised of facility construction and maintenance activities of principle structures, systems, and components (PSSCs), including onsite construction activities, engineering activities, supplier and vendor fabrication activities, and maintaining the validity of prior PSSC completion conclusions.

#### Performance

No specific performance issues were identified. Performance warrants the routine inspection program consistent IMC 2630 and commensurate with on-going construction activities at the MFFF. Identified deficiencies will be addressed through MOX Services' corrective action program.

#### III. ASSESSMENT AREA: OTHER AREAS

This area is comprised of licensing activities, licensing of new processes, licensing basis document submittals, and deviations from commitments.

#### **Performance**

No specific performance issues were identified.