

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 70-3070

LOUISIANA ENERGY SERVICES, L.P.

CLAIBORNE ENRICHMENT CENTER

NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
AND CONDUCT SCOPING PROCESS

1. Description of Proposed Activity

Louisiana Energy Services, L.P. (LES) has submitted an application, dated January 31, 1991, for a license to receive, possess, use, deliver, and transfer byproduct, source, and special nuclear material for its Claiborne Enrichment Center. The facility would be constructed near Homer, Louisiana, in Claiborne Parish, and would be used to enrich natural uranium hexafluoride to a maximum of 5 percent U-235 by the gas centrifuge process. A notice of receipt of application, availability of applicant's environmental report and other documents, consideration of issuance of license, hearing, and Commission order was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on May 21, 1991 (56 FR 23310).

2. Environmental Report

LES has submitted an Environmental Report in accordance with the requirements specified in 10 CFR Part 51 and pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. The Environmental Report, which discusses environmental considerations related to the construction and operation of the Claiborne Enrichment Center, is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room

in the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, D.C., and the Local Public Document Room at the Claiborne Parish Library, 901 Edgewood Drive, Homer, Louisiana 71040.

3. Environmental Impact Statement

Public Law 101-575 requires that the NRC prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in connection with the licensing of a uranium enrichment plant, and that the EIS be prepared before the hearing on the application for a license is completed. Accordingly, the NRC will prepare an EIS on the construction and operation of the Claiborne Enrichment Center.

The NRC will first conduct a scoping process for the EIS, and as soon as practicable thereafter, prepare a draft EIS for agency and public comment. The draft EIS will be the subject of a separate notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER. After receipt and consideration of comments, the NRC will prepare a final EIS.

4. Scoping Process

The scoping process for the EIS will be used to:

- a. Define the scope of the proposed action which is to be the subject of the EIS.
- b. Determine the scope of the EIS and identify the significant issues to be analyzed in depth.

- c. Identify and eliminate from detailed study issues that are peripheral or are not significant.
- d. Identify any environmental assessments and other environmental impact statements which are being or will be prepared that are related to but are not part of the scope of the EIS under consideration.
- e. Identify other environmental review and consultation requirements related to the proposed action.
- f. Indicate the relationship between the timing of the preparation of environmental analyses and the Commission's tentative planning and decision-making schedule.
- g. Identify any cooperating agencies, and as appropriate, allocate assignments for preparation and schedules for completion of the EIS to the NRC and any cooperating agencies.
- h. Describe the means by which the EIS will be prepared, including any contractor assistance to be used.

The NRC invites the following persons to participate in the scoping process:

- a. The applicant, Louisiana Energy Services, L.P.
- b. Any person who has petitioned for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party in the proceeding on the license application.
- c. Any other Federal agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved or that is authorized to develop and enforce relevant environmental standards.

- d. Affected State and local agencies, including those authorized to develop and enforce relevant environmental standards.
- e. Any affected Indian tribe.
- f. Any person who requests or has requested an opportunity to participate in the scoping process.

Participants may submit written comments on the scoping process for the EIS to Mr. Charles J. Haughney, Chief, Fuel Cycle Safety Branch, Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555. Submittals of comments should be postmarked by August 14, 1991, to be considered in the scoping process.

Participation in the scoping process for the EIS does not entitle participants to become parties to the proceeding to which the EIS relates. Participation in the adjudicatory proceeding is governed by the procedures specified in 10 CFR 2.714 and 2.715, and in the aforementioned FEDERAL REGISTER notice (56 FR 23310).

5. Public Scoping Meeting

In the preparation of an EIS and in accordance with 10 CFR 51.26, the scoping process for an EIS may include a public scoping meeting to help identify significant issues related to a proposed activity and to determine the scope of issues to be addressed in an EIS. The NRC has determined to hold a public scoping meeting as part of the scoping process for the Claiborne Enrichment

Center EIS. This public scoping meeting will be held at the Homer High School cafeteria in Homer, Louisiana, on Tuesday, July 30, 1991, at 7 p.m. The meeting will include a briefing by Louisiana Energy Services on the proposed Claiborne Enrichment Center, a briefing by the NRC on the environmental review process and the proposed scope of the EIS, and the opportunity for interested agencies, organizations, and individuals to submit comments or suggestions on the environmental issues or proposed scope of the EIS. Persons may register to present oral comments by writing to Mr. Charles J. Haughney at the aforementioned address, or they may register at the meeting. Individual oral comments may be limited in time, depending on the number of persons who register. Comments presented at the meeting will be considered in the scoping process for the EIS.

6. Summary

At the conclusion of the scoping process, the NRC will prepare a concise summary of the determinations and conclusions reached, including the significant issues identified, and will send a copy of the summary to each participant in the scoping process.

Additional information about the proposed activity, the EIS, and the scoping process may be obtained from Dr. Edward Y.S. Shum, Fuel Cycle Safety Branch, Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, or by telephone at (301) 492-0607.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this *21st* day of June 1991.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



John T. Greeves, Deputy Director
Division of Industrial and
Medical Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

John T. Greeves, Deputy Director
Division of Industrial and
Medical Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
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PL/LES SCOPING NOTICE2

*see previous concurrence

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| OFC | : IMAF* | : IMIF | : IMAF* | : IMA* | : OGC* | : IMNS | : DD:IMNS | : D:IMNS | : |
| NAME | : PLoyen:fb | : Brown | : EYShum | : JSwift | : STurk | : CJHaughney | : JGreeves | : RCunningham | : |
| DATE | 5/29/91 | 6/21/91 | 5/29/91 | 6/21/91 | 6/17/91 | 6/21/91 | 6/21/91 | 6/21/91 | |

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