

## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II 245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE N.E., SUITE 1200 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1200

September 30, 2025

Paul Lorskulsint
Chief Nuclear Officer
Louisiana Energy Services (LES)
dba Urenco USA (UUSA)
Urenco USA
P.O. Box 1789
Eunice, NM 88231

SUBJECT: URENCO USA – AUTHORIZATION TO PRODUCE URANIUM HEXAFLUORIDE ENRICHED TO UP TO 10 WEIGHT PERCENT URANIUM-235

Dear Mr. Lorskulsint:

On September 29, 2025, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received your letter (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number: (ML25272A218) requesting authorization to produce Uranium Hexafluoride (UF $_6$ ) enriched to between 5 and 10 weight (wt.) percent Uranium-235 (U-235) at the Louisiana Energy Services, URENCO USA Facility located in Eunice, New Mexico. Uranium in this enrichment range is known as LEU+. This letter provides the requested authorization from the U.S. NRC for you to produce UF $_6$  enriched to less than 10 wt. percent U-235.

This authorization is pursuant to the provisions of Materials License SNM-2010 license conditions 6B and 6B.1. Which require, in part, that the "URENCO USA facility (UUSA) shall not ... produce material for the assay above 5.0 wt. percent limit until the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has completed an operational readiness review (ORR) to verify the necessary changes have been implemented and the facility will be operated safely and in accordance with the requirements of the license. UUSA shall not at any time input parameters into the PCS to produce material for the assay at or above 10 wt. percent U-235."

This NRC authorization is based on the results of operational readiness reviews that the NRC has performed over the past year. The results of these operational readiness reviews are documented in the inspection reports listed in the enclosure to this letter (Enclosure).

The NRC staff determined that the necessary changes have been to support the safe production LEU+ in accordance with the requirements of your license. Specifically, our inspections verified through inspection of a sample of your controls and control implementation that there was reasonable assurance that: (1) items relied on for safety (IROFS) have been implemented to protect against the consequences of potential accidents associated with the production of LEU+; (2) that operators received the necessary training on the new, and changed, IROFS; (3) that components formerly identified as safe by design components had been appropriately redesignated as IROFS, and the appropriate commercial grade dedication performed in accordance with your license requirements, and; (4) that new IROFS had been

implemented to provide interim controls for the segregation of LEU+ from areas that have not yet had LEU+ controls implemented and authorized (e.g., recycling systems).

Please note that this authorization does not permit the introduction of LEU+ into the recycling and decontamination systems, or permit the removal of the interim controls for segregation of LEU+, and components exposed to LEU+ that have been removed from production systems, until the NRC has completed a readiness review to verify that the necessary changes to those systems have been implemented and the facility will be operated safely and in accordance with the requirements of the license.

This letter, its enclosure, and your response (if any) will be made available for public inspection and copying at <a href="http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html">http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html</a> and at the NRC Public Document Room in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding."

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Mr. Timothy J. Sippel, at 404-997-4525.

Sincerely,

Signed by Lara, Julio on 09/30/25

Julio F. Lara Acting Regional Administrator

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

Enclosure:

List of Inspection Reports for the Operational Readiness Reviews Supporting the Authorization of LEU+ Production

cc w/ encl: Distribution via LISTSERV

SUBJECT: URENCO USA – AUTHORIZATION TO PRODUCE URANIUM HEXAFLUORIDE

ENRICHED TO UP TO 10 WEIGHT PERCENT URANIUM-235 -

DATED: SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

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## ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML25272A288

X	SUNSI Review	X Non-Sensitive Sensitive		X	Publicly Availab	
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NAME	T. Sippel	L. Suggs/ LC for	J. Lara			
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## List of Inspection Reports for the Operational Readiness Reviews Supporting the Authorization of LEU+ Production

Report Number	ADAMS Accession Number	Inspection Area(s)
2025001	ML25097A177	OPERATIONAL READINESS REVIEW (LICENSE CONDITIONS 6B & 6B.1)
2025006	ML25120A086	Identification of Safety Controls and Related Programs for the Production of LEU+ ORR  Implementation of Safety Controls for the Production of LEU+ ORR
2025007	TBD	TBD