

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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ADD: Patrick Donohue,  
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Comment (5)  
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**Docket:** NRC-2026-2906

Orano Enrichment USA LLC; Uranium Enrichment Facility; Notice of Intent to Conduct Scoping Process and Prepare Environmental Impact Statement

**Comment On:** NRC-2026-2906-0001

Orano Enrichment USA LLC; Uranium Enrichment Facility; Notice of Intent To Conduct Scoping Process and Prepare Environmental Impact Statement

**Document:** NRC-2026-2906-DRAFT-0005

Comment on FR Doc # 2026-11785, NRC-2026-2906-0001, from City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee

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## Submitter Information

**Email:** afitzgerald@oakridgetn.gov

**Government Agency Type:** Local

**Government Agency:** City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee

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## General Comment

See attached file(s)

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## Attachments

071326 Orano Enrichment USA LLC



July 13, 2026

VIA E-MAIL:

<https://www.regulations.gov>

Docket ID NRC-2026-2906

**SUBJECT: Orano Enrichment USA LLC; Uranium Enrichment Facility; Notice of Intent To Conduct Scoping Process and Prepare Environmental Impact Statement**

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Oak Ridge in response to the notice posted by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regarding the agency's intent to conduct a scoping process and prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Orano Project IKE enrichment facility. The City of Oak Ridge supports this significant step forward in Orano's licensing application process.

According to the NRC's information, Orano is applying for a license to construct and operate a gas centrifuge uranium enrichment facility in Roane County, Tennessee, to be known as Project IKE. The Orano Project IKE enrichment facility would be located on approximately 600 acres of undeveloped land located within the city limits of Oak Ridge, on a site acquired from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) through the Oak Ridge Industrial Development Board.

The requested license would authorize Orano to receive title to, own, acquire, receive, possess, use, and transfer source material, special nuclear material, and byproduct material as specified in the license for the purposes of constructing, and then operating for up to 40 years, a facility that uses gas centrifuge enrichment technology to enrich uranium. The City is following the process with great interest and observes that NRC staff completed an acceptance review of Orano's license application and determined it contains sufficient information for the NRC to conduct a detailed technical review. An acceptance letter was issued to Orano on May 21, 2026 (ADAMS Accession No. ML26134A324).

The City has also reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), dated April 23, 2026, which states that DOE will act as a cooperating agency in developing the EIS with the NRC. The MOU defines the roles of each cooperating agency, including the responsibility of each agency to issue its own Record of Decision. The MOU further states the agencies' goal to reach mutually agreeable resolutions of any disagreements, but that the NRC reserves the right to make a final decision on any matter within the NRC's regulatory authority, and that DOE may decide that the EIS should include alternate or supplementary content that the NRC has determined is not necessary to fulfill the NRC's obligations pursuant to NEPA.

As an affected local government, the City urges the NRC and DOE to work cooperatively as described in the MOU, but to also work closely with the City of Oak Ridge to address environmental standards, socioeconomic, and cumulative impacts to include infrastructure,



emergency response, transportation and security services. Given the scale of and investment in the proposed facility, such engagement is necessary to promote public health and safety and continued community acceptance of the project. The scoping and EIS should also define and clarify the regulatory roles and responsibilities between the NRC and the "NRC Agreement" State of Tennessee.

The City appreciates the NRC's efforts to help educate local officials and the public about the licensing of nuclear projects in Oak Ridge. I urge the NRC to continue to engage with the City of Oak Ridge on the Orano licensing process. Feel free to contact me at (865) 425-3550 should you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randall W. Hemann", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Randall W. Hemann  
City Manager