

September 27, 2026
Docket Number: 70-7040

From:

Ashby Bridges
General Matter, Inc.
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To:

ATTN: Document Control Desk
Andrea L. Kock, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Subject: GeM Paducah Enrichment Facility—Initial License Application

Dear Ms. Kock:

General Matter, Inc. (GeM) hereby submits the enclosed License Application (LA) and supporting materials, in accordance with 10 CFR 70.5(a), 70.21, 70.22, and 70.65. GeM requests an initial 40-year license under 10 CFR Parts 40 and 70 for the GeM Paducah Enrichment Facility (GMPEF), located in McCracken County, Kentucky, on land leased from the U.S. Department of Energy at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant site. The requested license would authorize uranium enrichment to produce special nuclear material (SNM) in the form of uranium hexafluoride (UF₆), within the scope and limits described in the enclosed application.

Information identified in 10 CFR 70.22(a) is provided in Chapter 1 of Enclosure 3 and supporting enclosures. Additional documents required by applicable sections of 10 CFR 70.21, 70.22, and 70.65 are provided as enclosures. The requested license would limit the facility's SNM inventory to SNM of low strategic significance (Category III), as defined in 10 CFR 70.4.

This application proposes to limit the amount of SNM that can be transported or delivered to a carrier for transport to less than the amount specified in 10 CFR 73.1(b)(2). In addition, the license would not permit a formula quantity of strategic SNM. Therefore, in accordance with 10 CFR 70.22(g), a Safeguards Contingency Plan is not required.

GeM requests an accelerated NRC review of this application. An accelerated review is justified because of the extensive pre-licensing engagement with NRC staff and close adherence to NUREG-1520, resulting in a complete review-ready application. In addition, proprietary process and facility-design choices described in the application reduce the facility's risk profile and the complexity of the safety review, and the nature of the previously studied site will benefit the environmental review. An accelerated review would advance a national energy-security priority by supporting timely deployment of a domestically owned uranium-enrichment capability.

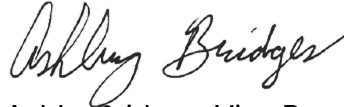
In keeping with Congressional direction and the administration's push for efficiency and streamlined environmental documents, and 10 CFR 70.21(a)(3), the Environmental Report (ER) incorporates by reference portions of other applicants' and licensees' ERs and NEPA documents.

The enclosed license application and supporting materials contain the following categories of protected information, as identified by the applicable document markings:

- (a) Security-Related Information (SRI) subject to withholding under 10 CFR 2.390(d)(1), consistent with NRC Regulatory Issue Summary 2005-31, Control of Security-Related Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information Handled by Individuals, Firms, and Entities Subject to NRC Regulation of the Use of Source, Byproduct, and Special Nuclear Material;
- (b) Export Controlled Information subject to 10 CFR Part 810, Assistance to Foreign Atomic Energy Activities, and other applicable export-control regulations;
- (c) Proprietary Information subject to withholding under 10 CFR 2.390(a)(4) and 10 CFR 9.17(b)(4); and
- (d) Safeguards Information (SGI) contained in Enclosure 13, GMPEF Physical Security Plan, protected from unauthorized disclosure pursuant to Section 147 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and 10 CFR 73.21 and 73.22. This information is exempt from public disclosure under 10 CFR 2.390(a)(3) and 10 CFR 9.17(b)(3).

GeM requests that the designated information be withheld from public disclosure under the applicable authorities identified above. Enclosure 14 provides the affidavit supporting the request for proprietary withholding under 10 CFR 2.390(b). Protection of the SGI in Enclosure 13 is independently required under 10 CFR 73.21 and 73.22 and does not depend on the proprietary withholding determination.

Sincerely,



Ashby Bridges, Vice President of
Regulatory Affairs and Radiation Safety Officer

Enclosures:

1. GMPEF Environmental Report (Public Version)
2. GMPEF Environmental Report (Proprietary Version)
3. GMPEF License Application Chapters 1-13
4. GMPEF Emergency Plan
5. GMPEF Emergency Plan Offsite Agencies and Response Organizations Comments
6. GMPEF Fire Hazards Analysis
7. GMPEF Decommissioning Funding Plan
8. GMPEF Integrated Safety Analysis Summary
9. GMPEF Fundamental Nuclear Materials Control Plan
10. GMPEF Standard Practice Procedures Plan
11. GMPEF Information Security Plan
12. GMPEF Information System Security Plan
13. GMPEF Physical Security Plan
14. 10 CFR 2.390 Affidavit