

February 28, 2012

Ms. Julie Olivier, Licensing Manager
GE-Hitachi Global Laser Enrichment
P.O. Box 780
3901 Castle Hayne Road
Wilmington, NC 28402

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED GENERAL ELECTRIC-HITACHI GLOBAL
LASER-BASED URANIUM ENRICHMENT FACILITY NEAR WILMINGTON,
NORTH CAROLINA

Dear Ms. Olivier:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed NUREG-1938, "Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed GE-Hitachi Global Laser Enrichment LLC Facility in Wilmington, North Carolina." The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) includes analysis of relevant environmental issues and documents the NRC's determinations regarding the environmental impacts from the preconstruction, construction, operation, and decommissioning of the proposed uranium enrichment facility.

Enclosed is a copy of the FEIS and of the associated *Federal Register* notice of availability. The notice advises the public that the Final EIS has been published by the NRC and identifies how the FEIS can be accessed. A separate notice of filing of the FEIS will be placed in the *Federal Register* by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

As discussed in the FEIS, the NRC staff recommends that, unless safety issues mandate otherwise, the proposed license be issued. This recommendation is based on: (1) the environmental report and revisions and supplementary information submitted by General Electric-Hitachi Global Laser Enrichment, LLC; (2) the staff's consideration of comments related to the environmental review that were received during the public scoping process and the Draft EIS public comment period; (3) consultation with Federal, Tribal, State, and local agencies; (4) the staff's independent review; and (5) the assessments summarized in the FEIS.

J. Olivier

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If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jennifer A. Davis, Senior Project Manager, by phone at 301-415-3835, or by email at Jennifer.Davis@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA by Christopher McKenney Acting for/

Andrew Persinko, Deputy Director
Environmental Protection
and Performance Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Docket No.: 70-7016

Enclosures:

1. Final EIS
2. *Federal Register Notice*

cc: See next page

J. Olivier

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Andrew Persinko, Deputy Director
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