



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

September 14, 2012

Gary J. Laughlin, Chief Nuclear Officer
and Head of Technical Services
Louisiana Energy Services, National Enrichment Facility, L.L.C.
P.O. Box 1789
Eunice, NM 88231

**SUBJECT: LOUISIANA ENERGY SERVICES, L.L.C., URENCO USA FACILITY, DOCKET
NO. 70-3103, AUTHORIZATION TO INTRODUCE URANIUM HEXAFLUORIDE
INTO CASCADE 2.10**

Dear Mr. Laughlin:

This letter confirms that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) authorized the introduction of uranium hexafluoride into Cascade 2.10 at the Louisiana Energy Services (LES), URENCO USA Facility located in Eunice, New Mexico on September 12, 2012. This authorization is pursuant to the provisions of Part 70, Paragraph 70.32(k) and 10 CFR 40.41(g) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) that states, "No person may commence operation of a uranium enrichment facility until the Commission verifies through inspection that the facility has been constructed in accordance with the requirements of the license."

This NRC authorization is based on the results of construction and quality assurance inspections of various aspects of Assay 2 in Separation Building Module-1001, as described in the inspection reports listed in the Enclosure. The NRC staff determined that the systems, structures, and components designed to support safe operation of Cascade 2.10, including feed and withdrawal stations, were constructed in accordance with the requirements of your license. Specifically, our inspections provided: (1) reasonable assurance that the design, construction, and implementation of items relied on for safety (IROFS) will protect against natural phenomena and the consequences of potential accidents, (2) verification that the Quality Assurance Program was adequately implemented during construction, and (3) verification that the construction of the IROFS was completed in accordance with the documents comprising the license and the Integrated Safety Analysis.

The publicly available inspection reports that describe the construction and quality assurance inspections of Cascade 2.10 are accessible through the NRC's public electronic reading room, Agency-wide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS) at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.htm> at the accession numbers listed in the Enclosure.

Please note that this authorization does not apply to any cascades other than Cascade 2.10 and it does not apply to processes or components associated with future phases of facility operations.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," this document may be accessed through ADAMS on the internet at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.htm.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Mr. Joselito Calle at 404-997-4418.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Anthony T. Gody, Director
Division of Fuel Facility Inspection

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

Enclosure:
Construction and Quality Assurance Inspection
Reports for Assay 2 in SBM-1001 as they
Pertain to Cascade 2.10

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

G. Laughlin

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cc w/encl: (See page 3)

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PUBLIC

PUBLICLY AVAILABLE NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE SENSITIVE NON-SENSITIVE
ADAMS: X Yes ACCESSION NUMBER: ML12261A040 X SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE X FORM 665 ATTACHED

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|--------------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| OFFICE | NMSS | | | | | | |
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| NAME | JKinneman | | | | | | |
| DATE | 9/ 13 /2012 | 9/ /2012 | 9/ /2012 | 9/ /2012 | 9/ /2012 | 9/ /2012 | 9/ /2012 |
| E-MAIL COPY? | YES NO | YES NO | YES NO | YES NO | YES NO | YES NO | YES NO |

cc w/encl:

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**Construction and Quality Assurance Inspection Reports for Assay 2 in SBM-1001 as
They Pertain to Cascade 2.10**

| Inspection Report Number | ADAMS Accession Number |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2006-001 | ML070190661 |
| 2007-001 | ML071440430 |
| 2007-002 | ML072280647 |
| 2007-003 | ML073060571 |
| 2007-004 | ML080670475 |
| 2008-001 | ML081160345 |
| 2008-002 | ML081930118 |
| 2008-003 | ML083040618 |
| 2008-004 | ML083540709 |
| 2008-006 | ML090790642 |
| 2009-001 | ML090850669 |
| 2009-002 | ML091770643 |
| 2009-003 | ML092730612 |
| 2009-004 | ML093511013 |
| 2009-006 | ML092820188 |
| 2010-005 | ML100850424 |
| 2010-012 | ML102020385 |
| 2011-002 | ML111190268 |
| 2011-003 | ML1120070634 |
| 2011-004 | ML11301A218 |
| 2012-002 | ML12121A579 |
| 2012-004 | Pending |

Enclosure