



**Westinghouse
Electric Company LLC**

**Commercial Nuclear
Fuel Division**

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Columbia South Carolina 29250
(803) 647 1000

NRC-00-12

March 24, 2000

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

Westinghouse Electric Company hereby provides a 30-day follow up report in accordance with the reporting requirements of 10CFR70.50 (c)(2). The initial report was made by telephone and FAX in accordance with the requirements of 10CFR70.50 (b)(1)(ii).

A description of the event, location, equipment involved, date, time and exposure information are contained in the attachment to this letter.

This was a contamination event involving the leakage of aqueous radioactive material from within the facility to the outside wall and a concrete pad.

A decontamination plan has been implemented and decontamination efforts are continuing.

If there are any questions, please contact me at (803) 647-3221 or write me at the above address.

Sincerely,

Westinghouse Electric Company

Jim Rankar
Integrated Safety Engineering

cc: U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW, Suite 23T85
Atlanta, GA 30303

IE72

30 DAY NOTIFICATION
10CFR70.50 Notifiable Event

Westinghouse Columbia, SC Plant (NRC License SNM-1107)

March 24, 2000

Westinghouse is making the 30 day follow up notification to the event identified on February 25, 2000. The notification was the result of the leakage of some aqueous radioactive material (Uranyl Nitrate) from within the facility to a concrete pad outside the facility. Additional surveys were performed to evaluate the extent of the contamination to ensure that all areas were identified and to delineate the affected areas from the unaffected areas. As a result of the additional surveys, two areas in the immediate vicinity of the reported area were identified. In the corner of the southwest expansion and the UF6 Bay, a contaminated area of approximately three square feet was identified. The fixed contamination measured 100,000 dpm/100cm². This contamination resulted from a scrubber leak in which some of the material migrated through the wall. On the east side of the southwest expansion, pipes from the cylinder wash area exit the facility. An area of approximately sixty square feet was identified. The material, Uranyl Fluoride, measured 120,000 dpm/100cm² fixed and 305 dpm/100cm² average removable contamination.

The identified areas were isolated and a decontamination plan was devised. The removable contamination has been cleaned to within the limit of 200dpm/100cm². Some fixed contamination is still present. A more aggressive decontamination plan is in place to remove the fixed contamination. The area remains isolated.

The Westinghouse Maintenance Department is removing obsolete piping and conduit from the exterior wall before sealing the wall to prevent future leakage.

Upon completion of the decontamination and prior to the closure of the incident file, an assessment of any movement of radioactive material into the soil will be performed.

The extent of exposure of individuals of radioactive is minimal since this was a contamination event occurring in an area not routinely occupied by employees.

10CFR70.50 NOTIFIABLE EVENT

WESTINGHOUSE COLUMBIA, SC PLANT (NRC LICENSE SNM-1107)

FEBRUARY 25, 2000

Westinghouse is making this notification in accordance with 10CFR70.50(b)(1), "Domestic Licensing of Special Nuclear Material".

On February 8, 2000, contamination was discovered on a small portion (less than approximately 10%) of a 20 feet x 50 feet outside concrete pad, located adjacent to the Columbia Plant Manufacturing Building (between the building and the Uranyl Nitrate Tank Storage Pad). The contamination resulted from leakage of aqueous material through the wall of the Manufacturing Building from a spill of uranyl nitrate material in the UF6 Bay, near the HF Spiking Station, which occurred on 2/7/00. The leakage of aqueous material outside the building was identified after the inside spill was decontaminated.

The concrete pad was roped off, and decontamination efforts were begun. Based upon initial contamination survey results, the event was not deemed notifiable because contamination levels did not exceed the limit in 10CFR70.50(b)(1)(ii). Decontamination efforts were hampered by the presence of soil on the concrete pad, which had accumulated over the years. As these materials were removed, on February 25, 2000, additional radioactive materials were discovered, making this event reportable under 10CFR70.50(b)(1). Contamination levels measured on 2/25/00 average approximately 133 dpm/100cm² alpha removable and approximately 6,000 dpm/100 cm² non-removable alpha.

The area remains roped off, and a decontamination plan is being formulated. As indicated above, the contamination surveys on 2/25/00 reveal that the majority of the contamination is fixed in the concrete.

The decontamination plan will address removal of any loose material on the surface of the concrete, decontamination of the concrete, evaluation of the potential for further movement of material through the walls of the Plant, and an assessment of any movement of radioactive material into the soil.