

November 13, 2002

MEMORANDUM TO: Daniel M. Gillen, Chief
Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

THRU: Lidia Roché, Chief **/RA/**
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SUBJECT: TRIP REPORT: NUCLEAR FUEL SERVICES, INC. MEETING
SUMMARY OCTOBER 21-23, 2002, RE: BLENDED LOW-ENRICHED
URANIUM URANYL NITRATE BUILDING INTEGRATED SAFETY
ANALYSIS RESUBMITTAL

During the week of October 21, 2002, NMSS staff met with Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc., (NFS) and Framatome (FRA) staff at the NFS site in Erwin, TN, to tour the facility and to discuss technical details regarding NFS' re-submittal of their Integrated Safety Analysis (ISA) Summary for the Uranyl Nitrate Building (UNB) portion of the Blended Low-Enriched Uranium (BLEU) project.

NFS submitted a license amendment application for the UNB on February 28, 2002, which included a proprietary ISA Summary; and on May 9, 2002, NFS submitted a non-proprietary version of the ISA Summary. NMSS staff performed an on-site review of the ISA on June 10-14, 2002, and subsequently determined that the ISA Summary was insufficient for NRC to review and approve the amendment application. NRC summarized the on-site review comments in a letter to NFS dated July 11, 2002, which stated that NFS should include additional information in the ISA Summary and resubmit it. NFS submitted the revised ISA Summary on August 23, 2002.

After review of the August 23, 2002, document, the NRC staff decided to do another on-site review of the ISA to clarify some of the remaining technical details. The following technical areas were evaluated during the on-site review: Emergency Planning, Radiation Protection, Environmental Protection, Instrumentation and Controls, and Nuclear Criticality Safety. For Emergency Planning, NRC staff reviewed the Emergency Plan and met with NFS staff to discuss it. For Radiation Protection, the NRC reviewers evaluated accident sequences for low consequence events and reviewed the accompanying methodology. They also reviewed existing Radiation Protection procedures. For Environmental Protection, the reviewer met with

the NRC staff and evaluated the dose assessments for the accident sequences resulting in environmental consequences. For instrumentation and controls, the reviewer met with FRA and NFS staff to discuss monitoring and control of Items Relied On For Safety (IROFS) and management measures assigned to the IROFS. He also reviewed specifications and drawings on some of the proposed electrical systems. For nuclear criticality safety, the NRC reviewer evaluated the Nuclear Criticality Safety Evaluation for the UNB. She reviewed the criticality modeling methodology and assumptions.

The NRC also met with NFS and FRA staff for a question and answer session on the Risk Assessment Methodology used to prepare the ISA.

As a result of the visit, several questions were clarified. The remaining open issues will be resolved with a Request for Additional Information.

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Attachment: List of Attendees

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