

March 16, 2004

NEF#04-005

Attn: Document Control Desk
Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20005-0001

Louisiana Energy Services, L. P.
National Enrichment Facility
NRC Docket No. 70-3103

Subject: Response to NRC Request Concerning the Quality Assurance Program
Description

By letter dated December 12, 2003, Louisiana Energy Services (LES), L. P., submitted applications for the licenses necessary to authorize construction and operation of a gas centrifuge uranium enrichment facility, the National Enrichment Facility (NEF). The Quality Assurance Program Description (QAPD) was included as part of the applications as Appendix A to Safety Analysis Report (SAR) Chapter 11, "Management Measures." The QAPD was also submitted separately to the NRC on November 21, 2003.

During the meeting between representatives of the NRC and LES on February 26, 2004, and subsequent telephone discussions on March 8 and 12, 2004, the NRC requested clarification of certain aspects of the QAPD. This letter provides the requested clarifications, and the appropriate changes will be made to the QAPD in a subsequent revision to the license application.

Section 2 of the QAPD, "QA Program," states in the subsection entitled "Quality Assurance Training," that "LES employees who perform QA Level 1 activities receive LES QA Indoctrination Training..." LES will include a version of QA Indoctrination Training as part of the general employee training given for all full-time employees.

Section 3 of the QAPD, "Design Control," states in the subsection entitled "Design Process," that "...when a commercial grade item is modified and/or tested to new requirements that are more restrictive than the supplier's published product description, the component part shall be traceable to documentation noting that it is different from the originally approved commercial grade item." LES will apply this commitment such that for new requirements that are different than the supplier's published product description, the commercial grade component part shall be traceable to documentation noting the difference from the originally approved item.

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The introduction of Section 4 of the QAPD, "Procurement Document Control," states that "...The requirements of 10 CFR 21, "Reporting of Defects and Nonconformance," are invoked during design, construction, testing and operations of QA Level 1 procurement or dedication of items and services..." LES will apply the requirements of 10 CFR 21 where appropriate, regardless of the QA level.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 630-657-2813.

Respectfully,

Daniel H. Green for

R. M. Krich
Vice President – Licensing, Safety, and Nuclear Engineering

cc: T. C. Johnson, NRC Project Manager
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