



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II  
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET, SW, SUITE 23T85  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

September 6, 2007

EA-07-039  
NMED No. 060660

Mr. Charles Perkins  
Site Manager  
AREVA NP, Inc.  
2101 Horn Rapids Road  
Richland, WA 99352-0130

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 70-1257/2007-006

Dear Mr. Perkins:

This refers to the results of the above-referenced Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) inspection conducted at your Horn Rapids Road facility on August 6-9, 2007.

As a result of the inspection, the enclosed NRC Form 591FF, SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT, is being issued. The enclosed form indicates that no violations were identified during the inspection of your licensed activities. Please retain the original Form 591FF Parts 1 and 3 for your files.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact us.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Douglas M. Collins, Director  
Division of Fuel Facility Inspection

Docket No. 70-1257  
License No. SNM-1227

Enclosure: NRC Form 591FF Parts 1 and 3

cc w/encl: (See page 2)

C. Perkins

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cc w/encl:

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Distribution w/encl: (See page 3)

C. Perkins

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\*see previous concurrence

X PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

☐ NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

☐ SENSITIVE

X NON-SENSITIVE

ADAMS: X Yes      ACCESSION NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICE	RII:DFFI	RII:DFFI				
SIGNATURE	AG 9/5/07	CC 8/30/07				
NAME	* AGooden	* CCramer				
DATE	08/ /2007	08/ /2007				
E-MAIL COPY?	YES	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

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DOCUMENT NAME: C:\FileNet\ML072490500.wpd

## SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED: AREVA NP, Inc. 2101 Horn Rapids Road Richland, WA 99352-0130 INSPECTION 2007-006		2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region II, Division of Fuel Facilities Inspection 61 Forsyth Street, Suite 23T85 Atlanta, GA 30303	
3. DOCKET NUMBER(S) : 70-1257	4. LICENSEE NUMBER(S): SNM-1227	5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION: August 6-9, 2007	

**LICENSEE:**

The inspection was an examination of the activities conducted under your license as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) rules and regulations and the conditions of your license. The inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspector. The inspection findings are as follows:

- ☒ 1. Based on the inspection findings, no violations were identified.
- ☒ 2. Previous violation(s) closed.
- ☐ 3. The violation(s), specifically described to you by the inspector as non-cited violations, are not being cited because they were self-identified, non-repetitive, and corrective action was or is being taken, and the remaining criteria in the NRC Enforcement Policy, NUREG-1600, to exercise discretion, were satisfied.

\_\_\_\_\_ Non-Cited Violation(s) was/were discussed involving the following requirement(s) and Corrective

- ☐ 4. During this inspection certain of your activities, as described below and/or attached, were in violation of NRC requirements and are being cited. This form is a NOTICE OF VIOLATION, which may be subject to posting in accordance with 10 CFR 19.11.

(Violations and Corrective Actions)

Licensee's Statement of Corrective Actions for Item 4, above.

I hereby state that, within 30 days, the actions described by me to the inspector will be taken to correct the violations identified. This statement of corrective actions is made in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.201 (corrective steps already taken, corrective steps which will be taken, date when full compliance will be achieved). I understand that no further written response to NRC will be required, unless specifically requested.

Title	Printed Name	Signature	Date
LICENSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE			
NRC INSPECTOR	A. Gooden	/RA/	8/30/07

## Docket File Information

**SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT  
AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION**

1. LICENSEE <b>Areva NP, Inc.</b> <b>2110 Horns Rapid Rd.</b> <b>Richland, WA 99352-0130</b> REPORT 2007-005		2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE <b>U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission</b> <b>Region II, Division of Fuel Facilities Inspection</b> <b>61 Forsyth Street, Suite 23T85</b> <b>Atlanta, GA 30303</b>
3. DOCKET NUMBER(S) 70-1257	4. LICENSE NUMBER(S) SNM-1227	5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION August 6 - 9, 2007

6. INSPECTION PROCEDURES USED  
 86740 and 88010

**SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

AREVA NP Richland facility fabricates low-enriched uranium fuel and blended low-enriched uranium fuel (BLEU) for use in commercial reactors. During the inspection period, Line 3 was shut down pending the evaluation of an HF leak detected on July 16. Normal operations were observed in fuel manufacturing support areas.

This routine, announced inspection included observations and evaluation of the transportation and operator training programs. The inspection involved observations of work activities, reviews of selected procedures and records, and interviews with personnel involved in the implementation of the transportation and training programs. The inspection identified the following aspects of the programs as outlined below:

**Transportation**

- The activities associated with the preparation and delivery of shipping containers were conducted in a safe manner and in accordance with regulatory requirements.
- Shipping papers accurately included the information as required by transportation procedures and regulations.
- The shipping containers that were selected for review were properly maintained in accordance with the certificate of compliance (CoC) requirements.
- Based on interviews and training documentation, personnel observed performing transportation activities involving the preparation of shipping papers and container receipt and shipments, were trained, and familiar with procedures for handling, inspecting, and preparation of shipments.

**Operator Training and Retraining**

- Operators were provided refresher training in nuclear criticality safety, general employee, radiation protection, and general emergency training.
- The Plateau Learning Management System was effectively used to monitor the qualification status of operators for ensuring that training was provided in accordance with training

(11-2005)

10 CFR 2.201

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## SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

requirements.

- The licensee's HF awareness training and examination material for plant operators was adequate to ensure the proper response to an unexpected spill or release of HF.
- The inspectors determined from training records that all personnel requiring the HF awareness training had completed the training, and select individuals who were interviewed demonstrated adequate familiarity regarding the proper response to a HF leak.
- The inspectors reviewed training procedures and instructor guides and determined that process safety information and hazard identification and assessment information was included in the training material.

Events Review

- The inspectors reviewed three off-normal events for reportability during the period of the inspection and determined that the events did not appear to meet NRC reporting requirements.
- On August 7, 2007, during start up operations involving a uranium extraction process, the extraction vessel lost an O-ring seal resulting in the release of uranium inside the test laboratory (Condition Report 2007-3710). Although the event was determined not to be reportable, two workers in the facility at the time of the release were surveyed for contamination and provided diagnostic kits for collection of bioassay samples to determine if there was an intake of uranium. Personnel contamination monitors (PCM) detected contamination on the pants of both workers in addition to nasal smears and the face. The contamination survey results and air samples collected from the area of impact did not exceed licensee action levels or 10 CFR Part 20 limits for occupational exposure. The results from the bioassay samples were not available at the time of the inspection and was considered an inspector followup item (IFI 70-1257/2007-06-01) to review the bioassay results for uranium.

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**SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY****Safety of Uranium Hexafluoride Cylinders at Fuel Cycle Facilities (TI 2600/013)**

- The inspectors reviewed licensee actions taken to resolve a licensee identified deviation (LID) which resulted from the failure to meet a written commitment to NRC dated September 29, 2003, in response to NRC Bulletin 2003-03 "Potentially Defective 1-Inch Valves for Uranium Hexafluoride Cylinders." In response to the deviation (discussed in Inspection Report 70-1257/2006-009), the licensee established a new commitment date and an action plan to meet the revised commitment date. Based on interviews and a review of the documentation provided, the inspectors determined that the licensee had completed all actions associated with the revised commitment date and TI 2600/13 "Safety of Uranium Hexafluoride Cylinders at Fuel Facilities" is considered closed.

**Items Opened, Closed, And Discussed**

<u>Item Number</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>
2006-010-001	Closed	VIO	Failure To Obtain Respiratory Protection Equipment In Accordance With Procedures MCP 30036, MCP 30102, and E08-03-6.5.
2006-010-002	Closed	VIO	Failure To Notify Onsite Personnel In Accordance With SOPs 40486, 40228, and EHS&L Procedure E18-01-002.
2006-010-003	Closed	VIO	Failure To Meet The Performance Requirements Of 10 CFR 70.61(c)(4)(i).
2006-010-004	Closed	VIO	Failure To Notify NRC In Accordance With 10 CFR 70 Appendix A(b)(1).

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## SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Items Opened, Closed, And Discussed (continued)

<u>Item Number</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>
2007-01-001	Closed	IFI	Evaluate The Operability History Of Similar HF Detectors At The Site To Determine The Adequacy Of Testing Frequency To Ensure Detector Reliability. The licensee determined that nine of thirteen newly installed HF detectors were found out of calibration tolerance during a three month period. In response, the frequency for calibration was changed to one month as recommended by the manufacturer's manual. The adequacy of testing frequency is considered closed. However, the inconsistencies in the calibration results was considered an inspector followup item (2007-006-02).
2007-006-001	Open	IFI	Review The Bioassay Results For Determination Regarding Uranium Intake.
2007-006-02	Open	IFI	Review Actions Taken To Resolve The Out Of Tolerance Calibrations For The HF Detectors.