



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

April 24, 2014

Mr. David Precht  
Manager, Columbia Plant  
Westinghouse Electric Company  
5801 Bluff Road  
Hopkins, SC 29061

SUBJECT: WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC COMPANY – NUCLEAR REGULATORY  
COMMISSION INSPECTION REPORT 70-1151/2014-002

Dear Mr. Precht:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted an announced inspection during the first quarter in calendar year 2014 (January 1-March 31, 2014) at the Westinghouse Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility in Hopkins, SC. The purpose of the inspection was to observe the processing of four uncertified uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>) cylinders and one legacy UF<sub>6</sub> cylinder in the Line 5 autoclave system on March 10 and 11, 2014. The inspection was conducted to determine whether licensed activities were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. No findings of significance were identified. The enclosed report presents the results of the inspection.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390 of NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room, or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), which is accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

If you have any questions, please call me at (404) 997-4629.

Sincerely,

**/RA/ M. Crespo for**

Marvin D. Sykes, Chief  
Projects Branch 2  
Division of Fuel Facility Inspection

Docket No. 70-1151  
License No. SNM-1107

Enclosure: (See page 2)

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Enclosure:  
NRC Inspection Report No. 70-1151/20140992  
w/Supplemental Information

cc:  
Wayne Sepitko  
Manager  
Environment, Health and Safety  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Christine Kneece  
Manager  
Industrial Safety  
Electronic Mail Distribution

Susan E. Jenkins  
Assistant Director, Division of Waste Management  
Bureau of Land and Waste Management  
Department of Health and Environmental Control  
Electronic Mail Distribution

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION II

Docket No.: 70-1151

License No.: SNM-1107

Report No.: 70-1151/2014-002

Licensee: Westinghouse Electric Company

Facility: Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility

Location: Hopkins, SC 29061

Dates: January 1 through March 31, 2014

Inspectors: M. Thomas, Senior Fuel Facility Inspector (Section A.1)  
C. Read, Fuel Facility Inspector-in-Training (Section A.1)

Approved by: M. Sykes, Chief  
Projects Branch 2  
Division of Fuel Facility Inspection

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Westinghouse Electric Company  
Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility  
NRC Integrated Inspection Report 70-1151/2014-002  
January 1 through March 31, 2014

An inspection was conducted by Nuclear Regulatory Commission regional inspectors during normal shifts in the area of safety operations. During the inspection period, normal production activities were ongoing. The announced inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations of activities, walk-downs of Items Relied on for Safety (IROFS), and interviews with licensee personnel. No safety significant findings were identified.

### **Operational Safety**

- The Line 5 autoclaves and associated IROFS were properly operated implemented and maintained in order to reliably perform their intended safety function. (Section A.1)

#### **Attachment:**

Key Points of Contact

Inspection Procedure Used

## **REPORT DETAILS**

### **Summary of Plant Status**

The Westinghouse Facility converts uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>) into uranium dioxide using a wet conversion process and fabricates fuel assemblies for use in commercial nuclear power reactors. During the inspection period, normal production activities were ongoing.

### **A. Safety Operations**

#### **1. Operational Safety (Inspection Procedure (IP) 88020)**

##### **a. Inspection Scope and Observations**

The inspectors interviewed staff and observed operations associated with processing of four uncertified UF<sub>6</sub> cylinders and one legacy UF<sub>6</sub> cylinder in the Line 5 autoclave system as authorized by license condition S-8. The Line 5 autoclave system involves certified pressure vessels and piping for the processing of UF<sub>6</sub> cylinders. The four uncertified UF<sub>6</sub> cylinders were received from the China Nuclear Energy Industry Corporation in May and July of 2011. The legacy cylinder had been received on site prior to 2011.

The inspectors confirmed that engineered controls were present and capable of performing their intended safety functions. To complete this confirmation, the inspectors verified the physical presence of passive and active engineered safety controls, evaluated the safety controls to determine their capability and operability, and verified that potential accident scenarios were covered.

The inspectors determined that licensee administrative controls were implemented and communicated. The inspectors reviewed applicable procedures and records and determined that required actions, as identified in the Integrated Safety Analysis Summary, were correctly transcribed into operating procedures. The inspectors evaluated the procedures' contents with respect to operator responses for upset conditions. The inspectors interviewed operators and determined that operators and technicians were adequately implementing the required safety controls. The inspectors observed operator performance and determined that they were adhering to applicable safety procedures.

##### **b. Conclusion**

No findings of significance were identified.

## **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

### **1. KEY POINTS OF CONTACT**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
G. Byrd	Licensing Engineer, Environmental Safety & Health (ES&H)
B. Faris	ISA Engineer
J. Howell	Conversion Area Manager
N. Parr	Licensing Manager, ES&H
C. Snyder	Nuclear Criticality Safety Manager

Other licensee employees contacted included engineers, technicians, production staff, and office personnel.

### **2. INSPECTION PROCEDURE USED**

IP 88020 Operational Safety