



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

July 20, 2015

Gary J. Laughlin, Chief Nuclear Officer  
and Head of Operations  
URENCO USA  
P.O. Box 1789  
Eunice, NM 88231

SUBJECT: LOUISIANA ENERGY SERVICES, L.L.C., URENCO USA FACILITY, DOCKET  
NUMBER 70-3103, AUTHORIZATION TO INTRODUCE URANIUM  
HEXAFLUORIDE INTO CASCADE 5.9

Dear Mr. Laughlin:

This letter confirms the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) authorization to introduce uranium hexafluoride into Cascade 5.9 at the Louisiana Energy Services (LES), URENCO USA Facility located in Eunice, New Mexico. This letter authorizes normal operations and re-feed operations for Cascade 5.9. This authorization is pursuant to the provisions of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 70, Paragraph 70.32(k) and 10 CFR 40.41(g) that states, "No person may commence operation of a uranium enrichment facility until the Commission verifies through inspection that the facility has been constructed in accordance with the requirements of the license."

This NRC authorization is based on the results of construction and quality assurance inspections of various aspects of Assay 5 in Separation Building Module (SBM)-1005, as described in the inspection reports listed in the Enclosure. The NRC staff determined that the systems, structures, and components designed to support safe operation of Cascade 5.9, including feed and withdrawal stations, were constructed in accordance with the requirements of your license. Specifically, our inspections provided: (1) reasonable assurance that the design, construction, and implementation of items relied on for safety (IROFS) will protect against natural phenomena and the consequences of potential accidents, (2) verification that the Quality Assurance Program was adequately implemented during construction, and (3) verification that the construction of the IROFS was completed in accordance with the documents comprising the license and the Integrated Safety Analysis.

The publicly available inspection reports that describe the construction and quality assurance inspections of Cascade 5.9 are accessible through the NRC's Public Document Room, or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.htm> using the accession numbers listed in the Enclosure.

Please note that this authorization does not apply to any Cascades other than Cascade 5.9, and it does not apply to processes or components associated with future phases of facility operations.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice and Procedure," this document may be accessed through ADAMS on the internet at [www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.htm](http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.htm).

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Mr. Marvin Sykes at 404-997-4629.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Mark S. Lesser, Director  
Division of Fuel Facility Inspection

Docket No. 70-3103  
License No. SNM-2010

Enclosure:  
Construction and Quality Assurance Inspection  
Reports for Assay 5 in SBM-1005 as they  
Pertain to Cascade 5.9

cc: (See page 3)

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/RA/

Mark S. Lesser, Director  
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cc: (See page 3)

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ADAMS: ☒ Yes      ACCESSION NUMBER: ML15201A374      ☒ SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE      ☒ FORM 665 ATTACHED

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SIGNATURE	/RA/	/RA/					
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AUTHORIZATION LETTER.DOCX

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**Construction and Quality Assurance Inspection Reports for Assay 5 in SBM-1005 as  
They Pertain to Cascade 5.9**

<b>Inspection Report Number</b>	<b>ADAMS Accession Number</b>
2013-002	ML13116A175
2013-003	ML13210A291
2013-005	ML14031A285
2013-006	ML13214A141
2014-005	ML15029A031
2014-401	ML14357A526
2015-002	ML15111A280
2015-003	Pending
2015-004	Pending
2015-006	ML15058A712
2015-401	ML15050A288

Enclosure