

September 13, 1996

Mr. William H. Timbers, President
U.S. Enrichment Corporation
Two Democracy Center
6903 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20817

Dear Mr. Timbers:

In accordance with the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is issuing the initial certification decision and proposed certificates of compliance for the U.S. Enrichment Corporation to operate the two gaseous diffusion plants leased from the Department of Energy, located in Paducah, Kentucky, and Piketon, Ohio. As required by the Act, NRC will report annually to Congress on health, safety, and environmental conditions at the enrichment plants, beginning in 1997.

Enclosed are the Federal Register Notice announcing the certificate decision, the proposed certificates of compliance for each plant, and the associated Compliance Evaluation Reports. Section 76.62 of NRC regulations provides that certain persons may file a petition requesting Commission review of the certification decision within 15 days of publication of the Federal Register Notice. Unless the Commission grants any petition or otherwise acts within 60 days of publication of the Federal Register Notice, the decision will become effective and final.

NRC intends to assume regulatory jurisdiction over the plants from the Department of Energy on March 3, 1997. Questions may be directed to Merri Horn or Carl Sawyer at (301) 415-7192.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Carl J. Paperiello, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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- Enclosures:
1. Federal Register Notice
 2. Proposed Certificate of Compliance for the Paducah GDP
 3. Proposed Certificate of Compliance for the Portsmouth GDP
 4. Compliance Evaluation Report for the Paducah GDP
 5. Compliance Evaluation Report for the Portsmouth GDP

Docket Nos. 70-7001 & 70-7002

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