

September 19, 1996

Mr. Gregory Watchman
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Occupational Safety and Health
U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20210-0001

Dear Mr. Watchman:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is issuing its initial certification decision for the U.S. Enrichment Corporation (USEC) to operate the two gaseous diffusion plants at Paducah, Kentucky, and Piketon, Ohio. NRC intends to assume regulatory jurisdiction over these plants from DOE on March 3, 1997.

As you know, the NRC and OSHA entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to govern each agency's responsibility and authority over occupational safety and health at these plants. This MOU was published in the Federal Register on August 1, 1996.

Enclosed is a copy of the Federal Register Notice announcing the issuance of the certification decision. If you would like additional information, please contact Ms. Yen-Ju Chen of my staff at 301-415-5615.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

John W. N. Hickey, Chief
Enrichment Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure: Federal Register Notice

cc: Mr. Robert Swain, OSHA
Mr. David Barnhill, OSHA
Mr. William M. Murphy, OSHA
Mr. Rick Cee, OSHA

Docket Nos. 70-7001 & 70-7002

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