

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

United States Enrichment Corporation
Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant

Docket No. 70-7002
Certificate No. GDP-2

During an NRC inspection conducted from March 3, 1997, to April 6, 1997, violations of NRC requirements were identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," NUREG-1600, the violations are listed below:

1. Technical Safety Requirement (TSR) 3.2.2.a states that minimum staffing requirements for each facility are shown in Table 3.2.2-1.

TSR Table 3.2.2-1 requires that the minimal staffing level for the Tails Withdrawal Station have one assigned Operator during Modes II and III.

Contrary to the above, on March 21, 1997, between 2:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., there was no assigned Operator present at the Tails Station during Mode II.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement VI).

2. Technical Safety Requirement (TSR) 1.6.2.2.d states that entry into an OPERATIONAL MODE that is applicable to the particular LIMITING CONDITION for OPERATION (LCO) shall not be made unless the conditions for the LCO are met without reliance on provisions contained in the ACTION statement.

TSR 2.7.3.13 and TSR 2.2.3.14 require DC control power for uranium hexafluoride stage motors to be operable for Mode II and Mode III.

TSR 2.2.3.1 requires the coolant high pressure relief system to be operable and their block valves verified open prior to entry into Modes II or III.

Contrary to the above, between March 3 and April 6, 1997, the plant entered Mode II with DC control power for uranium hexafluoride (UF₆) stage motors inoperable for four cells and without verifying that the coolant high pressure relief system block valves were open.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement VI).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, United State Enrichment Corporation is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555 with a copy to the Regional Administrator, Region III, and a copy to the NRC Resident Inspector at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant of this Notice, within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation (Notice). This reply should be clearly marked as a "Reply to a Notice of Violation" and should include for each violation: (1) the reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation, (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps that will be

taken to avoid further violations, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Your response may reference or include previously docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. If an adequate reply is not received within the time specified in this Notice, an order or a Demand for Information may be issued as to why the license should not be modified, suspended, or revoked, or why such other action as may be proper should not be taken. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time.

Because your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), to the extent possible, it should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction. If personal privacy or proprietary information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, then please provide a bracketed copy of your response that identifies the information that should be protected and a redacted copy of your response that deletes such information. If you request withholding of such material, you must specifically identify the portions of your response that you seek to have withheld and provide in detail the bases for your claim of withholding (e.g., explain why the disclosure of information will create an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or provide the information required by 10 CFR 2.790(b) to support a request for withholding confidential commercial or financial information). If safeguards information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, please provide the level of protection described in 10 CFR 73.21.

Dated at Lisle, Illinois
this 9th day of May 1997