



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs, Region II
61 Forsyth Street SW, Atlanta GA 30303
Web Site: www.nrc.gov

No. II-09-003

CONTACT: Roger Hannah (404) 562-4417
Joey Ledford (404) 562-4416

January 16, 2009

E-mail: OPA2@nrc.gov

NRC SCHEDULES ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE WITH USEC ON OHIO GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a predecisional enforcement conference in Atlanta on Thursday, Jan. 29 to discuss with officials of the United States Enrichment Corporation's Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Portsmouth, Ohio, an apparent violation of NRC requirements associated with the movement of a liquid uranium hexafluoride cylinder.

The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. (EST) at the NRC Region II office in Atlanta, located in the Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center, 61 Forsyth St., S. W., Suite 23T85. The meeting will be open to observation by the public, and NRC officials will be available at its conclusion to answer questions from interested observers.

NRC officials said that in September 2008 a plant employee discovered that a cylinder containing liquid uranium hexafluoride or UF₆ had been moved to a storage pad without using either an approved overhead crane or cart as mandated by the facility's safety requirements. An NRC inspection later found that USEC took immediate corrective actions and completed a thorough investigation after the event, which did not result in a mishap.

No decision on enforcement action will be made at the meeting. NRC officials will review information presented by USEC at the meeting and reach a decision on appropriate regulatory action at a later date.

The NRC inspection report on the issue is available through the Region II office or through the NRC Web page at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html. The number to access the document is ML090050150.

###