



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-09-005

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

February 3, 2009

E-mail: OPA2@nrc.gov

NRC RESCHEDULES POSTPONED ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE WITH USEC ON OHIO GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has rescheduled a predecisional enforcement conference in Atlanta with officials of the United States Enrichment Corporation's Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Portsmouth, Ohio. The conference had been originally scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 29, but weather conditions forced it to be postponed. The conference, which will discuss an apparent violation of NRC requirements associated with the movement of a liquid uranium hexafluoride cylinder, is now scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 5.

The rescheduled meeting will begin at 1 p.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.

###

News releases are available through a free *listserv* subscription at the following Web address: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/listserver.html>. The NRC homepage at www.nrc.gov also offers a SUBSCRIBE link. E-mail notifications are sent to subscribers when news releases are posted to NRC's Web site.