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NRC Schedules Enforcement Conference for Louisiana Energy Services/URENCO USA

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has scheduled a pre-decisional enforcement conference on Friday, Feb. 28, with officials of Louisiana Energy Services (URENCO, USA) of Eunice, N.M., to discuss apparent violations of NRC requirements related to criticality safety controls.

The enforcement conference will begin at 9 a.m. EST at the NRC Region II office in Atlanta, located at 245 Peachtree Center Ave. The meeting will be open to the public and NRC officials will be available after the meeting to answer any questions. Anyone interested in attending the meeting or participating by telephone should contact the NRC's Richard Gibson at 404-997-4718 or Richard.gibson@nrc.gov.

The purpose of the conference is to discuss two apparent violations of NRC requirements. Specifically, the licensee failed to adequately track the mass of uranium in containers in the facility's Small Component Decontamination Train. The second apparent violation is related to LES' failure to report the procedural problem to the NRC.

No actual criticality safety event occurred at the plant and there was never any danger to the public. However, strict control and monitoring of uranium is important in maintaining appropriate safety margins at the facility.

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

An NRC [inspection report](#) with more information on the violations is available on the NRC website.