

# **CONVERDYN<sup>News</sup> Wire – APRIL 2004**

## **An up-to-date information bulletin on the nuclear fuel cycle**

**Our Mission: We will be the premier provider of nuclear fuel cycle services with customer satisfaction as our primary focus – Unique, Innovative and Successful.**

**April 14, 2004**

### **UPDATE ON METROPOLIS UF<sub>6</sub> OPERATIONS**

The Metropolis conversion plant continues its phased re-start of UF<sub>6</sub> operations. Today the plant received NRC approval to progress to “green salt” operation where UO<sub>2</sub> is converted to UF<sub>4</sub>. The current estimate for NRC approval to start phase 3, filling UF<sub>6</sub> cylinders, is the week of April 19, 2004. The plant will maintain single train production for a period of time until it is determined that it is safe and appropriate to increase UF<sub>6</sub> production by going to dual train operations.

A public meeting has been scheduled for April 21, 2004 at the Massac County Courthouse in Metropolis between Honeywell and NRC personnel to provide an update on Honeywell’s efforts to improve operational safety, performance and emergency preparedness. This meeting will have no impact on the start up schedule given above.

ConverDyn now anticipates that revised delivery schedules for all customers and to all enrichment locations served by the Metropolis UF<sub>6</sub> facility to be available in early May. As mentioned in previous News Wires, ConverDyn estimates that it could take approximately two years to return to normal contractual delivery lead times. ConverDyn would like to thank all its customers, enrichers and other parties for their continued patience and proactive approach in assisting the industry to adjust to this period of production interruption at the Metropolis conversion facility.

In a related development, General Atomics, whose affiliate is a partner in ConverDyn, announced today that James J. Graham has retired from his executive positions in General Atomics' affiliated companies: Heathgate Resources Pty. Ltd., Nuclear Fuels Corporation, and Cotter Corporation. Mr. Graham will continue to serve as a Senior Vice President of General Atomics.

This change in his responsibilities will allow him to concentrate on ConverDyn and his role as its CEO and President. ConverDyn is the joint venture between affiliates of General Atomics and Honeywell International, Inc.

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*In order to keep our customers, suppliers and friends current on important timely topics that require immediate communication – we send out the ConverDynews Wire periodically. Comments and suggestions are welcomed as always*