

Coordinates: 37.171768°N 88.757039°W﻿ / ﻿

Honeywell Uranium Hexafluoride Processing Facility

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Honeywell Uranium Hexafluoride Processing Facility, a uranium conversion facility, is located 3 km northwest of Metropolis, Illinois. The plant, Honeywell Specialty Chemicals in Metropolis, Illinois, has a nominal capacity of 15,000 tU uranium per year. The plant manufactures a variety of products, but about 80 percent of the plant's work involves refining raw uranium ore into uranium hexafluoride. Across the Ohio river in Paducah, Kentucky, the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, can enrich the uranium hexafluoride into various levels for nuclear power or nuclear weapon purposes.^[1] ConverDyn, a general partnership between affiliates of Honeywell and General Atomics, is the exclusive agent for conversion sales from the Metropolis Works.

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Incidents

Site Area Emergency declaration

December 22, 2003 - Site Area Emergency

At 0245 CST on 12/22/03, a small release of Uranium hexafluoride occurred lasting approximately 45 minutes. At 0300 CST the licensee declared a Site Area Emergency, indicating failure of systems design to prevent risk to the public. All personnel were evacuated within a 1 mile radius. About 25 people offsite were temporarily evacuated and some 75 persons remained sheltered for a time in their homes. Licensee notified State of Illinois. NRC was notified at 0400 CST.

The licensee terminated the Site Area Emergency at 0650 CST on 12/22/03.^[2]

www.usw7-669.com

References

- ↑ Metropolis facility details from GlobalSecurity.org
- ↑ Metropolis Site Area Emergency

External links

- ConverDyn's corporate website
- Official facility website
- Dan Frosch, "In Superman's Hometown, a Labor Dispute Over Health", *The New York Times*, August 8, 2010.

Categories:

- Buildings and structures in Massac County, Illinois
- Companies based in Massac County, Illinois
- Isotope separation facilities in the United States
- Uranium
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