



PRESS RELEASE

The U.S. government awards AREVA a loan guarantee for enrichment facility

Paris, May 21st, 2010

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has awarded AREVA a \$2 billion loan guarantee to facilitate financing of its uranium enrichment facility near Idaho Falls in the United States.

The future facility known as Eagle Rock, is critical to protecting U.S. energy security by increasing domestic uranium enrichment, a key step in producing electricity from CO₂-free nuclear energy. The plant will use advanced centrifuge technology that has significant efficiency advantages over previous generation technologies.

Conditional loan guarantees from the DOE are not a grant. They provide a federal backstop that enables companies to invest in clean energy projects, including smart grids, renewable and nuclear energy projects.

DOE staff conducted a rigorous and exhaustive review of AREVA's application, ensuring that its proposal met the highest standards for innovative yet proven technology and the company's creditworthiness.

AREVA has expressed its gratitude to the U.S. government for its support and confidence in the group.

Implementation of the guarantee will become effective once the project receives appropriate licenses and permits. AREVA submitted a license application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in December 2008 to build the Eagle Rock plant at a site 18 miles west of Idaho Falls. If approved, construction on the 3.3 million SWU (separative work unit) facility could begin in 2011 and operations as early as 2014. This project must also receive final approval from AREVA's Supervisory Board.

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MORE ABOUT

All over the world, AREVA provides its customers with solutions for carbon-free power generation and electricity transmission*. With its knowledge and expertise in these fields, the group has a leading role to play in meeting the world's energy needs. Ranked first in the global nuclear power industry, AREVA's unique integrated offering covers every stage of the fuel cycle, reactor design and construction, and related services. In addition, the group is developing a portfolio of operations in renewable energies. AREVA is also a world leader in electricity transmission and distribution* and offers its customers a complete range of solutions for greater grid stability and energy efficiency. Sustainable development is a core component of the group's industrial strategy. Its 79,000 employees work every day to make AREVA a responsible industrial player that is helping to supply ever cleaner, safer and more economical energy to the greatest number of people.

* Activity Transmission and Distribution in the process of divestment