

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am forwarding the NRC's "Report to Congress on Abnormal Occurrences, Fiscal Year 2001." This report on events involving radioactive materials use is required by Section 208 of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-438). In the context of the act, an abnormal occurrence (AO) is an unscheduled incident or event that the Commission determines to be significant from the standpoint of public health or safety. The Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-66) requires that AOs be reported to Congress annually.

The report discusses two AOs. In the first event, an individual hired by an NRC licensee received a radiation overexposure to the bone surface while performing decontamination and inventory activities for the licensee. In the second event, a radiographer employed by an Agreement State licensee received a radiation overexposure after failing to retract a radiography source into its fully locked position and failing to perform an adequate survey.

Agreement States are the States that have entered into a formal agreement with the NRC pursuant to Section 274 of the Atomic Energy Act (AEA) to regulate certain quantities of AEA licensed material at facilities located within their borders.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Meserve

Enclosure: "Report to Congress on Abnormal
Occurrences, Fiscal Year 2001"