

June 1, 2000

Professor Harold Lewis
Professor Emeritus, Physics
University of California, Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, California 93106

Dear Professor Lewis:

This provides an update on Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) actions as a result of your suggestions regarding NRC and NASA collaboration on risk assessment. Recently, members of the NRC staff held an initial meeting with Drs. Peter Rutledge and Michael Stamatelatos of NASA Headquarters. (Dr. Rutledge is the director of NASA's Enterprise Safety and Mission Assurance Quality Division in the Office of Safety and Mission Assurance; Dr. Stamatelatos is his newly hired risk assessment expert.) The purpose of the meeting was to discuss how to initiate increased collaboration in the areas of risk assessment and risk management. It was agreed that a workshop would be a useful tool to start the process, and that the thrust of the workshop should be to identify areas of collaboration that would benefit both organizations.

A proposal for the workshop is being jointly developed by the NRC and NASA staffs. The current plan is to hold the workshop in late June 2000.

Please feel free to contact Mr. Ashok Thadani at (301) 415-6641 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard A. Meserve