

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 06/12/00

EDO CONTROL: G20000275
DOC DT: 05/30/00
FINAL REPLY:

Representative Frank A. LoBiondo

TO:

Chairman Meserve

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

** PRI **

CRC NO: 00-0355

Chairman

DESC:

GAO's Findings and Conclusion to NRC's Staff
Survey of the Proposed Risk-Informed and
Performance-Based Regulation

ROUTING:

Travers
Paperiello
Miraglia
Norry
Craig
Burns/Cyr
Miller, RI
Thadani, RES
Corley, OEDO
GAO File

DATE: 06/01/00

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR

Collins

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Ref. G19990584. Coordinate response with RES.

FRANK A. LOBIONDO
2ND DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY



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INFRASTRUCTURE
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3002

May 30, 2000

The Honorable Richard A. Meserve
Chairman
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852-2738

Dear Chairman Meserve:

I am writing with regard to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) efforts to address the findings and conclusions in the General Accounting Office (GAO) January, 2000 NRC staff survey of the proposed Risk-Informed and Performance-Based Regulation. My district in Southern New Jersey houses three nuclear facilities; Salem 1, Salem 2 and Hope Creek. I am committed to maintaining my constituents' safety, and am deeply interested in proposed safety regulations and policies issued by the NRC.

As you might agree, in times of broad-based organizational change, cooperation among management and staff is crucial to the effective implementation of a new system. After carefully reviewing the GAO survey of NRC staff, I have found that the NRC has an opportunity to alleviate staff skepticism to the new system as a strategy to implement the Risk-Informed regulation is developed. Due to the broad-based significance of the new regulation, the Commission must aggressively address the GAO's findings and concerns voiced by NRC staff.

Recent testimony given by both you and your colleagues suggest that the Commission is taking steps to communicate with staff regarding the Risk-Informed Regulatory Initiative. You have cited intensive discussions regarding concerns expressed by the staff, current steps to address these concerns and training underway by the NRC to ensure proper implementation of the new system. I commend your efforts in this regard and encourage you to take this important feedback into consideration as the new regulation is developed.

REC'D BY

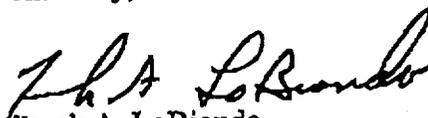
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The Honorable Richard A. Meserve
May 30, 2000
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I respectfully request you provide me with a detailed update on actions taken to remedy the concerns outlined by NRC staff in the GAO survey. I also respectfully request you cite if a benchmark for evaluating the new system has been established. As you would agree, prompt attention to the findings in the GAO survey is of the utmost importance in ensuring continued improvement of the Risk-Informed Approach.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Frank A. LoBiondo
Member of Congress