

July 11, 2000

Mr. Henry Sokolski, Executive Director
The Nonproliferation Policy Education Center
1718 M Street, N.W., Suite 244
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Sokolski:

Thank you for your letter of June 7, 2000, expressing your reservations about potential Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) involvement in safety training being planned by the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO). The NRC has been asked by the U.S. Department of State to support KEDO efforts to enhance nuclear safety in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK).

As you know, we held an open meeting with KEDO and the Department of State on June 13, 2000. They briefed the NRC on the background of the initiative, the interactions with the DPRK, the status of the Light Water Reactor Project, the nuclear safety confirmation system which KEDO has set up, and the areas in which KEDO and the Department of State think the NRC might make a contribution in implementation activities.

The Commission is still gathering information. We have made no decision on this matter and it will take us some time to sort through the complexities associated with any nuclear safety assistance to the DPRK. Your views and all of those on record will be considered.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard A. Meserve