

December 1, 2000

Mr. John Allen, Director
Maryland North and Northern Virginia (NOVA)
Service Delivery Team
General Services Administration
1099 14th St., NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Allen:

I am requesting your assistance in determining the requirements for the emergency electrical power shutoff buttons currently installed in the Two White Flint North building. The buttons in question activate a shunt trip breaker in our Operations Center, which is staffed 24X7. As a result of a recent incident in the Center, we are questioning the need for the buttons.

There are four (4) buttons that activate the shunt trip breaker in the Center. Three (3) buttons are in the Center, located at each exit door, and one (1) button is located in a small room on the floor above the Center which houses equipment that supports the Center. The Center is located on a raised floor to accommodate cabling and is basically an office environment. We are aware that shutoff buttons are required at the exit doors for computer rooms. However, we do not believe the buttons are required for the Center's environment.

We would like to know if any or all of the buttons can be disconnected and still ensure that the building remains in compliance with applicable building codes. Mr. Louis Fisher, of my staff will serve as our point of contact. Your staff can contact him on (301) 415-7310, E-mail: LXF@nrc.gov to discuss this matter and arrange a site visit.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,
/RA/
Timothy F. Hagan, Director
Division of Facilities and Security
Office of Administration

Distribution:

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L. Fisher, FACB
J. Giitter, IRO
DFS r/f
FACB r/f *previously concurred ML

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