

April 4, 2001

The Honorable Song Ruixiang
Vice Minister
State Environmental Protection Administration
No. 115 Xizhimennei Nanxiaojie
Beijing, 100035
China

Dear Vice Minister Song:

Thank you for taking time from your busy schedule to meet with me during my recent and first visit to Beijing. It was a pleasure to meet you and I found our discussion of the challenges facing our agencies very informative. I am pleased to hear of your possible visit to the U.S. this summer to observe an emergency drill between NRC and a power reactor licensee. The area of emergency preparedness and response is important, and one where bilateral collaboration can have significant and tangible results. Please keep me informed of your travel plans. I look forward to meeting with you again and, if my schedule permits, accompanying you on a site visit in the U.S.

Thank you again for your gracious hospitality and for all of the work that your staff did to prepare the arrangements for my visit. I look forward to welcoming you to Washington, DC.

With best regards,

/RA/

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

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April 4, 2001

Mr. Zhao Chengkun
Director General
National Nuclear Safety Administration
No. 115 Xizhimennei Nanxiaojie
Beijing, 100035
China

Dear Director General Zhao:

Thank you for hosting my visit to China and for taking time from your busy schedule to meet with me. It was a pleasure to meet you, and I found our discussion very interesting and informative. It is clear to me that our two organizations can benefit from continued and strengthened cooperation. This is particularly true in the area of emergency preparedness and response. The NRC welcomes your staff this summer to observe an emergency drill and meet with the staff.

Please let me know if you will have an opportunity to visit the U.S. I would be pleased to meet with you again and continue our discussion. Thank you again for your gracious hospitality and for your staff's assistance with my visit arrangements. It was an excellent trip.

With best regards,

/RA/

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

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April 4, 2001

Dr. Jiang Wei
Director, International Affairs
State Environmental Protection Administration
No. 115 Xizhimennei Nanxiaojie
Beijing, 100035
China

Dear Dr. Jiang:

Thank you for meeting me and my fellow travelers at the airport upon our arrival at Beijing airport and for taking time away from your family on Sunday to show us some of the historical sites around Beijing. It was my first trip to China, and your kind and gracious hospitality has made a lasting impression.

China's nuclear program is growing quickly and faces many challenges. I know that you have many important responsibilities, including the coordination of bilateral cooperation. The NRC has worked closely with your program for many years, and I look forward to our continued close collaboration.

Thank you again for your assistance in providing arrangements for my visit and for your many kindnesses.

With best regards,

/RA/

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

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April 4, 2001

Mr. Wang Zhongtang
Deputy Director
Shanghai Regional Office
National Nuclear Safety Administration
16D1, 895 Yan'an Xi Road
Shanghai, 200050
China

Dear Mr. Wang:

Thank you very much for taking valuable time away from your many duties to accompany me on my recent site visit to the Qinshan reactor site and the Shanghai Boiler Works. My site visits helped me to gain a better understanding of your program. I am very impressed with the many responsibilities covered by the limited resources of your regional office.

I wish you continued success and safety.

With best regards,

/RA/

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

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April 4, 2001

Professor Gu Zhongmao
Director
Department of Radiochemistry
China Institute of Atomic Energy
P.O. Box 275 (87)
Beijing, 102413
China

Dear Professor Gu:

Thank you for taking time away from your many responsibilities to meet with me during my recent visit to your Institute. I appreciated the comprehensive technical presentations provided by you and your colleagues and the tour of facilities. The fast reactor, now under construction, will provide important operational information and operator training for China's future generation of reactors.

I wish you continued success and safety with your many programs.

With best regards,

/RA/

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

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April 4, 2001

Professor Wu Zongxin
Director
Institute of Nuclear Energy Technology
Energy Science Building
Tsinghua University
Beijing, 100084
China

Dear Professor Wu:

Thank you for taking time from your duties to meet with me when I recently visited your Institute. The presentations and technical tour of facilities were very informative. I was particularly impressed by the work that you have done on the Pebble Bed Modular Reactor (PBMR) and fuel fabrication for the reactor. As I mentioned to you, the NRC may soon be asked to review the PBMR design for licensing, so it is important that the NRC enhance its understanding of this technology. Given your Institute's experience with the PBMR, I hope there will be opportunities for our organizations to work together to share reactor safety information. To follow up on my visit, representatives from the NRC licensing staff and research staff will request to visit your Institute.

Again, thank you for welcoming my visit and for your kind hospitality.

With best regards,

/RA/

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

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April 4, 2001

Mr. He Xiaojian
Deputy General Manager
Qinshan Nuclear Power Company
Haiyan, Zhejiang 314300
China

Dear Mr. He:

Thank you for taking time from your many duties to meet with me during my recent visit to Qinshan Phase 1. The presentations that I received and the technical tour were very comprehensive and helped me to gain a better understanding of operations at your facility. I was impressed with the development of the onsite emergency operations center. Please let me know if you or your staff will have an opportunity to visit Washington, DC. I would be pleased to make arrangements for you to tour the NRC Operations Center and observe an emergency drill.

Again, thank you for your gracious hospitality.

With best regards,

/RA/

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

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April 4, 2001

Dr. Ye Qizhen
Chief Engineer
Qinshan Nuclear Power JVC Ltd.
No. 43 Fu Cheng Road
P.O. Box 2103-60
Beijing
China

Dear Dr. Ye:

I want to thank you for taking time from your many duties to meet with me during my recent visit to Qinshan Phase II. The presentations that I received and the technical tour of the units under construction were informative and helped me to gain a better understanding of the units' design and future operation.

I wish you success in your construction efforts and many years of safe operation.

With best regards,

/RA/

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

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April 4, 2001

Mr. Jiang Guoyuan
Deputy General Manager
Third Qinshan Nuclear Power Co., Ltd.
Haiyan, Zhejiang 314300
China

Dear Mr. Jiang:

Thank you for taking time from your many duties to meet with me during my recent visit to Qinshan Phase III. The presentations that I received and the technical tour of the construction site were informative and helped me gain a better understanding of the units' design and future operation.

I wish you success in your construction efforts and many years of safe operation.

With best regards,

/RA/

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April 4, 2001

Mr. Zhou Guo Ren
Chairman of the Board
Shanghai Boiler Works, Ltd.
250 Hua Ning Road
Minghang, Shanghai
China

Dear Mr. Zhou:

Thank you for taking time from your many duties to meet with me during my recent visit to the Shanghai Boiler Works. The presentations that I received and the technical tour were very comprehensive and helped me gain a better understanding of your world-class operation. I was impressed with the scale and scope of your facility. As a U.S. regulator, I was particularly interested in seeing the fabrication of a reactor vessel.

Thank you again for your kind hospitality and the very pleasant lunch that we shared.

With best regards,

/RA/

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

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April 4, 2001

Mr. Steven Lau
Executive Deputy General Manger
01 Building
Daya Bay Nuclear Power Station
Shenzhen, Guangdong
China

Dear Mr. Lau:

Thank you for the time you took away from your duties to meet with me. The presentations that I received and the technical tour were very comprehensive and helped me to gain a better understanding of the operation at Daya Bay and the construction status at the Ling Ao project. It was also interesting to visit a plant under construction and tour areas that are more difficult to see once the unit has been commissioned. I was impressed with your efforts to enhance the safety culture at Daya Bay. I applaud your efforts to share these insights with your counterparts in China.

Thank you again, and I wish you many years of continued safe operation.

With best regards,

/RA/

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

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April 4, 2001

Mr. Kurt W. Tong
Counselor for Environmental, Science and Technology
Embassy of the United States
3 Xiu Shui Bei Tei
Beijing, 100600
China

Dear Mr. Tong:

Thank you for the assistance that the Embassy and Consulates provided me during my recent visit to China. My discussions in Beijing and the site visits were very informative and helped me to better understand China's growing nuclear program. I was particularly impressed with the work being conducted by the Institute for Nuclear Energy Technology (INET) on the pebble bed modular reactor and fuel fabrication for the reactor. NRC will send some technical teams for follow-up discussions with INET. The NRC will also be working with the Chinese in the area of emergency preparedness and response. Please feel free to contact my office if you have any follow-up questions or comments regarding nuclear power development in China.

I also want to thank you for the reception that you hosted. It was a pleasant evening, and everyone enjoyed the opportunity to meet and talk, away from official meetings.

With best regards,

/RA/

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

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