

**From:** Margaret Doane, Ocm  
**To:** Lorna Pini  
**Date:** 4/2/01 5:25PM  
**Subject:** Thank you letters for Mexico

Attached are a series of thank you letters. Could you put them in the right format for the Commissioner's signature.

Thanks, Margie

F/3

Mr. Jose Luis Delgado Guardado  
Dr. Barragan No. 779  
Col. Vertiz Narvarte  
Delg. Benito Juarez C.P. 03020  
Mexico, D.F.

Dear Jose Luis,

Thank you very much for meeting with me in Mexico City and escorting me to Laguna Verde. I greatly appreciated the time and effort you put forth to make my visit worthwhile. Through your efforts, in a very short time I was able to gather a significant understanding of the Mexican regulatory system, research activities, and operation of the Laguna Verde facility. You also provided me with a wonderful glimpse of Mexico's rich and colorful culture, which I enjoyed very much.

At our meetings you mentioned that CNSNS employees may benefit from training conducted by the NRC. As you know, we have a training center at headquarters and an off-site technical training center that offer a wide range of courses. If there are specific areas of interest, I would be glad to inform you of the dates and training opportunities specific to those areas. I am also sending a letter to Mr. Eibenschutz informing him of the opportunity for training at the NRC.

Please also extend my thanks to your staff who met with me in Mexico City. I would especially like to thank Sergio Waller, who was a tremendous help in arranging my visit, and Raul Ortiz, who with you and Sergio, accompanied me to Laguna Verde. I look forward to our next meeting.

With best regards,

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

Dr. José Luis Galván Madrid  
Director General, ININ  
Av. Amsterdam 46, 202  
Co. Hipodromo Condesa  
06100 México, D.F.

Dear Jose Luis,

Thank you for meeting with me in Mexico City on February 7<sup>th</sup>, and informing me about the current activities at ININ. Before my visit, I had not previously had an opportunity to hear about the specific projects that ININ is working on. It is obvious that you are conducting important and interesting work. I found the discussion intriguing. I also thoroughly enjoyed the company of you and your staff at dinner.

Thank you also for the terrific leather notebook. It was very thoughtful of you to send both myself and Margie Doane a gift. Please, also extend my thanks to your staff who discussed their research activities with me at our meetings in Mexico City.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance to you in the future.

With best regards,

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

Ing. Juan Eibenschutz Hartman  
Director General- CNSNS  
Dr. Barragan 779  
Quinto Piso (5th floor)  
Col. Narvarte CP 03020  
Mexico DF

Dear Ing. Eibenschutz,

As I said in our telephone conversation on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, I learned through my visit to Mexico and in conversations with Jose Luis Delgado that there are many areas of mutual interest to the NRC and CNSNS. Specifically, you and I discussed training for your staff at the NRC, computer codes, and a tri-lateral meeting between staff of CNSNS, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, and the NRC on radioactive materials issues involving lost or stolen sources.

As for training, the NRC conducts a wide-range of training courses for NRC employees each year. The NRC would gladly permit CNSNS employees to attend this training. If your staff is interested in a particular area, please contact me so that I can have my staff provide information on the training sessions that pertain to those areas of interest.

Mexico has had the computer code matter under consideration. Specifically, the NRC has offered membership in the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research International Code Applications and Maintenance Program (CAMP) and Cooperative and Severe Accident Research Program (CSARP) at a reduced rate of \$25,000 per year for each program. If you or your staff would like additional information on this matter please contact me.

As we discussed, now that I have heard from both you and the head of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, Linda Keene, about an interest in a tri-lateral meeting between our staffs, I plan to discuss the matter in detail with my fellow Commissioners. I will contact you in the future about the details of such a meeting, if I am successful in arranging this opportunity.

Also, if you are interested in observing an emergency exercise drill for a U.S. reactor facility, I would be pleased to have you observe an exercise I will be conducting this fall. Emergency exercise drills are held at the NRC headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. This year I will be conducting a drill for the Byron Station on November 28, 2001. I have also invited Dr. Rafael Alexandri Rionda, from Secretaria de Energia, and a member of his staff, Mr. Ramiro Magaña, to observe the exercise. Dr. Alexandri at our meeting in Mexico City expressed an interest in emergency exercise drills conducted in the U.S. Please contact me, if you would like to attend.

Your staff was tremendously gracious and helpful during my visit to Mexico. I look forward to continuing to improve the working relationship between our agencies.

With best regards,

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

Dr. Rafael Alexandri Rionda  
Director General de Recursos Energéticos y Radiactivos  
Insurgentes Sur No. 890-11o Piso  
Col. del Valle  
C.P. 03100 Mexico, D.F.

Dear Dr. Alexandri,

Thank you for meeting with me during my visit to Mexico City in February. I found our discussions very useful. I look forward to continued cooperation between our two countries on nuclear matters and furthering our relationships on matters that are mutually beneficial. To this end, at our meeting you expressed an interest in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) emergency exercise programs and I told you that I am scheduled to conduct an emergency exercise for a U.S. reactor facility this fall. I would be pleased to have you observe the exercise.

Emergency exercise drills are held at the NRC headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. This year I will be conducting a drill for the Byron Station on November 28, 2001. Both you and Mr. Magaña are welcome to observe that exercise. Please contact me, if you would like to attend.

You also expressed an interest in members of your staff attending media seminars that the NRC holds for the press. These seminars are to inform the press about major initiatives of the NRC. We have held these seminars over the last few years and each year the number of members of the press left to inform about the mission of the NRC gets smaller. Consequently, we do not intend to hold a seminar for the press this year. However, if you have any questions about this program, or if it would be helpful for your staff to discuss this program in more detail with the NRC staff that conducts these seminars, please do not hesitate to call me.

Finally, you mentioned that it may be useful for your staff to attend technical training conducted by the NRC. This should not be a problem to arrange. If there are specific areas of interest, please let me know and I will send you the dates and time for any associated training programs. I look forward to hearing from you.

With best regards,

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

**From:** Margaret Doane  
**To:** Lorna Pini  
**Date:** 4/3/01 4:38PM  
**Subject:** last Mexico letter

Attached is the last thank you. Thanks for your help.

Margie

Ambassador Jeffrey Davidow  
Embassy of the United States of America  
Paseo de la Reforma # 305  
Col. Cuauhtemoc  
06500 Mexico, D.F.

Dear Ambassador Davidow,

Thank you for meeting with me during my visit to Mexico City in February. Your insights about the changing Mexican political climate were particularly useful as background information for my later meetings with various Mexican nuclear officials.

I would also like to thank you for the excellent assistance of your Science Attache, Ms. Lourdes Bufill. Her expertise and significant coordination efforts were invaluable in setting up numerous meetings in Mexico City on short notice. When the schedule shifted, she worked efficiently to rearrange several meetings for me. She also accompanied me to all meetings, which made our travels to various parts of the city run smoothly. She was very professional on our visits and her assistance with language differences, especially when we visited Laguna Verde, was particularly helpful.

After my return to the United States, she provided assistance to my staff in drafting a trip report and when the Director General of CNSNS was replaced, Ms. Bufill assisted me in setting up a phone conference with the new Director General. Of my numerous overseas visits, Ms. Bufill is at the top of the list of attaches that have assisted me in foreign countries.

With best regards,

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

cc: Dana Weant  
Lourdes Bufill