

October 11, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Meserve
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield

FROM: Dennis K. Rathbun, Director **/RA/**
Office of Congressional Affairs

SUBJECT: HOUSE ENERGY AND COMMERCE ANTITERRORISM
LEGISLATION AND REPORT TO ACCOMPANY H.R. 3016

On October 3, 2001, the House Energy and Commerce Committee marked up and approved legislation that would, among other things, strengthen security at certain nuclear facilities. The bill, H.R. 3016, includes three of NRC's legislative proposals that were submitted in NRC's June 22, 2001 legislative package. The bill did not include a fourth proposal that the NRC requested in a September 28 letter to the Committee. The fourth proposal would have provided guards at NRC-designated facilities the authority to use weapons comparable to those used by DOE guard forces.

During the markup, Congresswoman Heather Wilson (R-NM) and Congressman Edward Markey (D-MA) introduced amendments that were accepted by the Committee. Congresswoman Wilson's amendment calls for a study of nuclear power plant vulnerabilities. Congressman Markey's amendment would, among other things, require NRC to begin a rulemaking to revise the design basis threat and set up a separate office for an OSRE program with the Director reporting to the Commission. Another amendment that was accepted increased the penalties for sabotaging nuclear facilities. Copies of the bill and the Report to accompany H.R. 3016 are attached.

H.R. 3016 is being sent to the Rules Committee to determine how it will come to the Floor.

Attachments: As Stated

cc:	EDO	OGC
	OGC/Cyr	OCAA
	CFO	SECY
	OPA	ACRS/ACNW
	OIG	

Contact: Linda Portner, 415-1673