

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 11/22/01 EDO CONTROL: G20010507
DOC DT: 11/07/01
FINAL REPLY:

Senator Barbara A. Mikulski

TO:

Chairman Meserve

FOR SIGNATURE OF : ** PRI ** CRC NO: 01-0595

Chairman

DESC:

ROUTING:

Proposed Reopening of Cove Point Facility and the
Potential Threat to the Safety of the Calvert
Cliff Nuclear Plant

Travers
Paperiello
Kane
Norry
Craig
Burns/Cyr
Virgilio, NMSS
Wessman, IRO
ERCT
Miller, RI
Schum, OEDO
Davis, NMSS

DATE: 11/08/01

ASSIGNED TO: CONTACT:
NRR Collins

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Coordinate response with ERCT.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Nov 08, 2001 14:56

PAPER NUMBER: LTR-01-0595 **LOGGING DATE:** 11/08/2001
ACTION OFFICE: EDO

AUTHOR: Barbara Mikulski
AFFILIATION: CONG
ADDRESSEE: Richard Meserve
SUBJECT: Concerns the proposed reopening of Cove Point facility and the potential threat to the safety of the Calvert cliffs nuc plant, located near this facility

ACTION: Signature of Chairman
DISTRIBUTION: RF

LETTER DATE: 11/07/2001
ACKNOWLEDGED: No
SPECIAL HANDLING: OCA to Ack
NOTES: Commission Correspondence
FILE LOCATION: Adams

DATE DUE: 11/26/2001 **DATE SIGNED:**

EDO --G20010507

BARBARA A. MIKULSKI
MARYLAND

SUITE 709
HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2003

(202) 224-4654
TDD: (202) 224-6223

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2003

November 7, 2001

Richard A. Meserve
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North Building
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Dear Chairman Meserve:

I was alarmed to learn of plans to reopen a liquefied natural gas (LNG) unloading facility near Cove Point, Maryland. Shipping to this facility, with foreign vessels and foreign crews transporting flammable fuel from Algeria or other countries, could create a new vulnerability to terrorism. I am particularly concerned because the Cove Point facility is within 3 ½ miles of the Calvert Cliffs nuclear power plant, which is directly on the shore of the Chesapeake Bay.

I know the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is taking seriously the terrorist threat to America's nuclear reactors. Unfortunately, not every agency is as attentive to security needs as we receive warnings of further terrorism. It was on October 11, the one-month anniversary of the attacks on America, that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) granted preliminary approval for the Cove Point LNG facility to reopen.

I hope the NRC will immediately look into the potential threat to the safety of the Calvert Cliffs nuclear power plant and the people of Maryland by the proposed reopening of Cove Point to LNG shipments. I have written to Homeland Security Director Ridge and FBI Director Muller on this issue because of the national security implications.

I look forward to hearing from you soon on this important safety issue.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator