

March 21, 2002

The Honorable Strom Thurmond  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510-4001

Dear Senator Thurmond:

Thank you for the letter from your constituent, Fred Giffels, in which he inquires about NRC's decision to restore the daily plant status reports and plant event reports to the agency's web site. We informed Mr. Giffel's company, HGP, Inc., that we would restore the plant status report to the web this month and have done so. The event reports will be restored once the Commission makes a final decision on the criteria to be used by the staff when deciding to withhold certain types of information.

After carefully reviewing these reports and other similar material, we will be making them available to the public, while eliminating any information we believe would be helpful to an adversary or terrorist.

We understand that the plant status report and other information we provide to the public is used extensively by businesses and public citizens, but we want to make sure that our reviews of such information are careful and deliberate, and do not threaten the defense and security of our country. We have received many letters like the one sent by Mr. Giffels expressing support for our actions in this regard and we appreciate his thoughtful comments.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

William D. Travers  
Executive Director  
for Operations

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