

July 19, 2002

Edwin Lyman, President  
Nuclear Control Institute  
1000 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 410  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Lyman:

I am responding on behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to your letter of June 10, 2002, concerning the re-introduction of public input to the NRC on nuclear plant security issues.

As you know, the NRC has maintained a formal policy for communicating with the public and other stakeholders, reflected as a performance measure in the NRC Strategic Plan. The events of September 11, 2001, forced the NRC and other agencies of the Federal government to reevaluate where to draw the line between what information can be discussed in public and what information should remain undisclosed. Public involvement in the regulatory process is necessary, but wide dissemination of certain security related information would not be in the public's interest.

We are currently considering options and formats for communicating with the general public on security matters. I am forwarding your recommendations to the staff for consideration. I assure you that we intend to maintain public involvement in our deliberations and to provide reasonable public access to information, to the extent consistent with our security obligation.

If you have any additional questions regarding this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Richard A. Meserve

July 19, 2002

Mr. David Lochbaum  
Nuclear Safety Engineer  
Union of Concerned Scientists  
1707 H Street, Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20006-3919

Dear Mr. Lochbaum:

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Sincerely,

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Richard A. Meserve

Identical letter sent to:

Mr. Edwin Lyman, President  
Nuclear Control Institute  
1000 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 410  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Mr. David Lochbaum  
Nuclear Safety Engineer  
Union of Concerned Scientists  
1707 H Street, Suite 600  
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