

July 10, 2002

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-2107

Dear Congressman Markey:

I am responding on behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to your letter of June 20, 2002, in which you asked a number of questions about the status of a Pakistani man arrested in September 2001 on suspicion of gathering information about the Salem and Hope Creek Nuclear Power Stations. In the letter you indicated that Mr. Raza Nasir Khan was in possession of a Global Positioning System (GPS) with the coordinates of the Hope Creek reactor and cooling tower stored in memory.

As a result of participation in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI's) Strategic Information Operations Center (SIOC), the NRC was aware of the arrest last September. Mr. Kahn was placed in the custody of the Federal Court in Delaware. On March 21, 2002, a Federal judge ordered the deportation of Mr. Khan because he had overstayed his work visa and was in illegal possession of firearms. He was deported on March 27, 2002.

The NRC was aware at the time of the event, and has since reconfirmed with both the FBI and Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), that Mr. Khan had a GPS unit in his possession. The staff was not informed of any specific data that were entered in this GPS unit. Upon receipt of your letter, we contacted the U.S. Attorney's Office in Wilmington, Delaware, and the Philadelphia regional FBI and INS offices and none of these organizations was able to confirm your assertion as to the data entered in the GPS unit.

We informed the licensee on September 29, 2001, of Mr. Khan's arrest. At that time, the FBI's investigation of Mr. Kahn was in progress, and the licensee was already in a state of heightened alert. Subsequently, the FBI determined that Mr. Kahn was not a credible security threat and the NRC determined that no further action was necessary.

Please contact me if you have additional questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard A. Meserve

cc: Mr. Chris Rigopoulos, FBI
Mr. Ken Krauss, INS
Mr. Bernie Bogdan, FBI