



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001**

July 26, 2002

Mr. Robert Gary
2211 Washington Avenue, #301
Silver Spring, MD 20910-2620

Dear Mr. Gary,

This is in response to the July 17, 2002, letter you wrote to Richard A. Meserve, Chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Your letter raised concerns about the security of spent fuel pools at the nation's nuclear power plants from a general aviation suicide attack. Your letter also recommended prohibiting Muslims who are not United States citizens from any participation in general aviation.

Your letter also referred to earlier correspondence from you, dated June 17, 2002, on the same subject. My response to your first letter was dated July 9, 2002 (copy enclosed), and may have been delivered after you sent this current letter. Therefore, I refer you to the more detailed response to your comments in my July 9 letter, including the discussion of the inherent physical capabilities of the nuclear plants to withstand catastrophic events both meteorological and malicious, the redundancy built into the safety systems, the emergency preparedness programs including periodic evaluated exercises, and recent NRC orders requiring the nuclear power plants to develop specific plans to respond to events resulting in damage to large areas of the plant from explosives or fire.

Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

(/RA by R. P. Zimmerman)

Roy P. Zimmerman, Director
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

Enclosure: As stated

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