

September 5, 2002

The Honorable Min-Shen Ouyang  
Chairman  
Atomic Energy Council  
67, Lane 144, Section 4, Keelung Road  
Taipei, Taiwan 106  
Republic of China

Dear Chairman Ouyang:

Thank you for your letter of August 19, 2002 and the invitation for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to send an observer to the off-site nuclear emergency drill scheduled for September 26-27, 2002, at Taipower's Third (Mannshan) Nuclear Power Station. Like the Atomic Energy Council (AEC), the Commission conducts annual emergency drills, and places great importance in the lessons learned from these exercises. Unfortunately, I am not able to send an observer to the September drill. The NRC staff will contact the AEC Technology Department to obtain the schedule of upcoming AEC drills so a future trip can be planned.

The Commission values the significant collaboration that it has with the AEC, which is reflected in the frequent exchanges between our organizations. For example, in December 2002, our staffs will participate in the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) - Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) annual Joint Commission Meeting on Civil Nuclear Cooperation. In January 2003, our staffs will hold the first technical bilateral meeting to discuss reactor licensing issues. I would also like to recognize the assistance the AEC Washington representative, Dr. Thomas Tseng, provides in facilitating our cooperative program.

I look forward to an opportunity for us to discuss nuclear safety matters of mutual interest.

Sincerely,

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Richard A. Meserve