

October 25, 2002

Dr. Theodore Marston
EPRI
3412 Hillview Avenue
P.O. Box 10412
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Dear Dr. Marston:

Thank you for your willingness to share your ideas and recommendations on anticipatory research. The Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research conducts anticipatory research to ensure that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is prepared for safety challenges associated with new designs, new technology, expected industry initiatives, and emerging safety issues.

The Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research is pursuing all of the suggestions you made in response to the Anticipatory Call with the exception of research to support NRC's timely processing of DOE's licensing application for Yucca Mountain. The Yucca Mountain work is being done under the direction of the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards. We have had considerable interactions with EPRI on many of your suggestion and it is certainly my hope that we will continue those interactions and expand our collaborative efforts.

I thank you for your continuing interest in nuclear safety. Your response to the Anticipatory Call is greatly appreciated and I look forward to receiving your ideas and recommendations in response to future Anticipatory Calls.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Ashok C. Thadani, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

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