



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

COMMISSIONER

January 18, 2002

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Clinton:

On October 10-12 of last year, I had the opportunity to visit the James A. Fitzpatrick and Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Plants in Oswego, New York, as well as the Ginna Nuclear Power Plant near Rochester, New York. During my visits, I conducted extensive tours of all three facilities, met with a variety of senior plant executives, and addressed an "all-hands" employee meetings at all three sites. I believe these visits were successful because they gave me a hands-on perspective of the plants' safety performance, they provided opportunities to exchange views with senior plant managers, and they provided excellent fora for me to share information about the nuclear industry with plant employees.

I am aware that many of your constituents are interested in the health and safety issues associated with these facilities. As I have done with a number of Members of Congress over the last year, I would like to extend an offer to personally brief you on the results of these visits. Not only will this allow me to share with you my impression of the facilities, but I would also be prepared to discuss how the NRC is responding to the security events over the last four months.

In the coming days, I will have my staff contact your scheduler to see if there is a convenient time in your schedule. In the meantime, please contact me at 301-415-1855 if I may be of assistance.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey S. Merrifield", is written over a horizontal line.

Jeffrey S. Merrifield

A handwritten signature and the initials "F/21" are located in the bottom right corner of the page.

F/21