September 15, 2003

Dr. Lawrence Susskind Ford Professor of Urban Studies and Planning, MIT The Consensus Building Institute, Inc. 131 Mt. Auburn Street

Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Dr. Susskind:

Thank you for your letter dated July 22, 2003, inviting the Nuclear Regulatory

Commission (NRC) to participate in a research project to learn more about the perception of risks associated with nuclear power plant management. However, I do not believe that it would be appropriate for the NRC to participate given the nature and background of the project. It is the NRC's policy not to respond or provide reactions to statements in the foreign press regarding issues such as the cover-up of problems discovered at a TEPCO nuclear facility in Japan.

Sincerely,

/RA by Carl J. Paperiello Acting For/

William Travers Executive Director for Operations

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Executive Director
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