

January 27, 2004

Richard E. Tontarski, Jr.
Chief, ATF&E Fire Research Laboratory
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF&E)
6000 Ammendale Road
Ammendale, Maryland 20705

SUBJECT: OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION STAFF'S VISIT TO THE
ATF&E FIRE RESEARCH LABORATORY

Dear Mr. Tontarski:

On January 15, 2005, the fire protection staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Office of Nuclear Reactor (NRR) visited your new fire research laboratory. The visit was provided at the request of NRR to see the fire measurement equipment and testing technology available at your facility. I would personally like to thank you for the tour. During our tour Mr. Stephen M. Hill, Fire Research Engineer of your staff provided an overall discussion of the fire research laboratory's role in fire investigation support and the capabilities of the testing facility. Mr. Hill discussed the training of the ATF&E Certified Fire Investigators (CFIs) and the role of fire scene reconstruction using this facility. The tour was well received by the member of the NRR staff.

Additionally, Mr. Hill informed us that the ATF&E is considering using the NRC NUREG-1805, Fire Dynamics Tools (FDT^s) as a supplemental training tool for the CFIs. The start-up of our FDT^s was an early methodology presented to us in November 2000 by Mr. Gerald Haynes of your Arson and Explosive Division. We will be happy to provide it to the ATF&E for your use.

If you require any information, please contact Naeem Iqbal 301 415-3346 or Mark Salley 301 415-2840. Again, thank you for the tour.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John N. Hannon, Chief
Plant Systems Branch
Division of Systems Safety and Analysis
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Chief, ATF&E Fire Research Laboratory
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