

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 04/21/04

EDO CONTROL: G20040248  
DOC DT: 04/07/04  
FINAL REPLY:

Charles F. Bass  
House of Representatives

TO:

Dennis Rathbun

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

\*\* PRI \*\*

CRC NO: 04-0224

Chairman Diaz

DESC:

ROUTING:

Independent Safety Survey for Vermont Yankee

Travers  
Paperiello  
Kane  
Norry  
Collins  
Dean  
Burns/Cyr  
Miller, RI

DATE: 04/12/04

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR

Dyer

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Templak: SEC4-017

E-R1DSSSEC4-01

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

*Date Printed: Apr 12, 2004 10:14*

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**PAPER NUMBER:** LTR-04-0224 **LOGGING DATE:** 04/09/2004  
**ACTION OFFICE:** EDO

**AUTHOR:** Charles Bass  
**AFFILIATION:** REP  
**ADDRESSEE:** Dennis Rathbun  
**SUBJECT:** Regarding Independent Safety Survey for Vermont Yankee

**ACTION:** Signature of Chairman  
**DISTRIBUTION:** Cy RF. OCA to Ack.

**LETTER DATE:** 04/07/2004  
**ACKNOWLEDGED:** No  
**SPECIAL HANDLING:** Constituent Correspondence

**NOTES:**

**FILE LOCATION:** ADAMS

**DATE DUE:** 05/11/2004 **DATE SIGNED:**

G20040248

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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE  
• SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, TRADE,  
AND CONSUMER PROTECTION  
• SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT  
AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS  
• SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT  
AND INVESTIGATIONS  
• SUBCOMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
AND THE INTERNET

April 7, 2004

(301) 415-8571

VIA FAX: (202) 606-5050

Dennis K. Rathbun, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

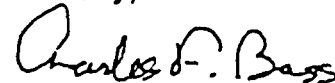
Dear Mr. Rathbun:

I am writing on behalf of Fred M. Slavic of Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire who has written me the enclosed letter about the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant located in Vernon, Vermont, across the Connecticut River from Hinsdale, New Hampshire.

Mr. Slavic refers to a sale of the plant approved by the Vermont Public Service Commission provided an independent safety survey is completed. He feels that the safety of residents of the Monadnock Region in southwestern New Hampshire is threatened.

Whatever assistance you can provide to help me respond to my constituent would be most appreciated. I will await your prompt response.

Sincerely,

  
Charles F. Bass  
Member of Congress

CFB/jpl

Enclosure

REPLY TO

142 NORTH MAIN STREET  
CONCORD, NH 03301  
(603) 226-0242

170 MAIN STREET  
NASHUA, NH 03060  
(603) 889-8772

78 MAIN STREET  
SUITE 202  
LITTLETON, NH 03061  
(603) 444-1271

ONE WEST STREET  
SUITE 208  
KEENE, NH 03431  
(603) 338-4004

**Fred M Slavic**  
**572 Rhododendron Rd**  
**Fitzwilliam NH 03447**  
603 585 6883  
westhill@cheshire.net

**Congressman Charles Bass**  
**1 West St Suite 208**  
**Keene NH 03431**

April 5 200

Dear Congressman Bass:

I am writing about the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant which is located in Vermont, but is right on the border of our state. The plant was built 31 years ago with the expectation that it would be closed after 30 years as by that time the plant would be no longer safe.

It is now 31 years and far from shutting it down, a new company has bought it and not only plans to keep it running, but wants to increase its capacity by 20%. The Vermont Public Service Commission has recently approved this with the proviso that an independent survey be made to determine the plant's safety. It now appears that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is not bound by this decision and may not do an independent safety survey.

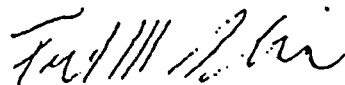
The Vernon Yankee plant is one of the oldest in the country and does not have many of the safety features that newer plants have. It did not have a good safety record even when it was new, and pushing it beyond its useful life even without adding a 20% increase to its output is an outrageous assault on the safety of everyone living in its shadow.

In the event of a serious accident everyone living within 50 miles of this plant would permanently lose their homes to radiation and would not collect a penny of insurance. Because of the Price Anderson Act they could not even sue the power company. With the banks closed there is a question as to how they could even access their savings. This is without even mentioning the radiation injuries which would especially affect the children.

I realize that you are subject to many different pressures. I also realize that we need electricity. But subjecting everyone in New Hampshire and particularly those in the Monadnock region to this sort of danger is too high a price to pay.

As our Representative we rely on you to protect our interests. If you would use your influence to induce the NRC to permit an independent and honest safety inspection of the Vernon Yankee plant, it would be a popular move and would be much appreciated by all of us.

Most Sincerely,



Fred M Slavic