

September 7, 2004

Mr. Daniel Beyel  
Board of Chosen Freeholders  
County of Cape May  
4 Moore Road, DN 101  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210-1654

Dear Mr. Beyel:

Thank you for your kind invitation to the Homeland Security Conference to be held on September 14, 2004. When I had attended a previous conference in 2002, I found it to be very informative and particularly well-run.

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend this time. I have checked with other appropriate Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) representatives from our Regional Office and our Headquarters and none are available at this time. I hope you have a successful conference and I regret that the NRC is not able to participate.

The NRC has continued to enhance the strict security requirements of nuclear facilities. In fact, another set of improvements has been ordered at all commercial nuclear reactors with full implementation due this fall.

The NRC is also paying close attention to the operational safety of all nuclear power plants. The plants in New Jersey are all operating with significant safety margins. The NRC is not only conducting an extensive safety inspection program at each facility, but is also closely monitoring unique site-specific issues. Attached for your information are the latest NRC assessments for Salem, Hope Creek, and Oyster Creek.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

A. Randolph Blough, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

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