

December 29, 2004

The Honorable Stephen Kulik  
Massachusetts House of Representatives  
State House, Room 279  
Boston, MA 02133-1054

Dear Mr. Kulik:

On behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter of November 9, 2004, to Mr. Luis Reyes, which expressed your concerns regarding the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station and Yankee Rowe Nuclear Power Plant and their vulnerability to a terrorist attack. Your letter referenced an August 10, 2004, petition submitted to the NRC by the Nuclear Security Coalition and requested that we carefully read the petition and take its contents seriously.

The Coalition's petition requested that the NRC take action to provide stronger defenses of boiling-water reactors with Mark I and II containments and their spent fuel. Members of the Coalition met with our Petition Review Board on September 23, 2004, to discuss the petition. Enclosed is a copy of the NRC's October 19, 2004, letter to inform the Coalition that the NRC would review their request under the process specified in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 2.206.

The NRC's petition review process provides for a thorough evaluation of the petition. As the chair of the NRC's Petition Review Board, I can assure you that the contents of the petition will be taken seriously and all comments, such as those that you provided, will be considered in our review. On the basis of our review, the Director of the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation will issue a written decision on the petition.

I trust that this information is responsive to your request.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

James Lyons, Deputy Director  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: As stated

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