



NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF TEST, RESEARCH, AND TRAINING REACTORS

Tawfik M. Raby, Co-Chair Seymour H. Weiss, Co-Chair
National Institute of Standards and Technology
100 Bureau Drive, MS 8561 Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8561
Tel: (301) 975-6258, FAX (301) 975-8800 raby@nist.gov, syweiss@nist.gov

Executive Committee

Sean O'Kelly, Univ. of Texas, Chair-Elect
Stephen I. Miller, AFRRI, Treasurer William G. Vernetson, Univ. of Florida, Secretary-Newsletter Editor
John A. Bernard, MIT Andrew C. Klein, Oregon State Univ.
James W. Bryson, Sandia National Lab Wade J. Richards, NIST
Ralph A. Butler, Univ. of Missouri C. Frederick Sears, Penn State Univ.
Christopher J. Heysel, McMaster Univ. Ray Tsukimura, Aerotest

July 27, 2005

David B. Matthews
Director,
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington DC 20555

Dear Mr. Matthews:

We are writing on behalf of the TRTR community in regards to the recent visits by intern reporters to TRTR facilities. Members of TRTR have identified to the NRC and law enforcement agencies the suspicious behavior of individuals who were visiting their facilities. NRC informed TRTR that these visits may have been part of a summer intern program that ABC News and other corporations were conducting related to investigative reporting.

TRTR believes that the security measures currently in place have worked and that the public health and safety have not been compromised. The research reactor community picked up on the recurrent visits by these individuals and their unusual interest in security matters very rapidly and acted accordingly.

One of the primary missions of these facilities is to inform and educate members of the public on nuclear technology matters, including school children and others. Public tours are a great asset to the community and the nation and should be continued in a prudent way. We are convinced that the TRTRs are safe and secure; however, we have urged each of our facilities to continue to be diligent and vigilant in admitting visitors and conducting tours.

Sincerely,

Seymour H. Weiss, Co-Chair TRTR

Tawfik M. Raby, Co-Chair TRTR