

March 2, 2006

The Honorable Susan M. Collins
Chair, Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Madam Chair:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter of February 17, 2006, regarding the status of NRC's answers to the questions raised in your letter of October 7, 2005, on the agency's preparedness for, and response to, Hurricane Katrina. By letter dated November 4, 2005, the NRC provided answers to the questions in your earlier letter, as well as a copy of the written testimony that was presented to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on November 2, 2005. The Commission certifies that the answers provided on November 4, 2005, are complete and accurate and that the agency did not withhold any documents or information in response to the questions.

The NRC routinely conducts lessons learned reviews of its responses to hurricanes to improve the agency's emergency response capabilities. The NRC is conducting a review of the agency's responses to Hurricane Katrina and other hurricanes that occurred in 2005. The NRC will provide the final lessons learned report to your committee when the report is complete.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jeffrey S. Merrifield
Acting Chairman

cc: Senator Joseph I. Lieberman

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Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

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