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FROM: DUE: 11/22/06

EDO CONTROL: G20060919

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FINAL REPLY:

Representative Edward J. Markey

TO:

Chairman Klein

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

\*\* PRI \*\*

CRC NO: 06-0572

Chairman Klein

DESC:

Specifications and Guidelines for New Nuclear  
Reactors

ROUTING:

Reyes  
Virgilio  
Kane  
Silber  
Johnson  
Burns  
Zimmerman, NSIR  
Strosnider, NMSS  
Cyr, OGC  
Schmidt, OCA

DATE: 11/13/06

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR

Borchardt

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Coordinate with NSIR/NMSS, as appropriate.

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E-RIDS: SECY-01

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

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**PAPER NUMBER:** LTR-06-0572 **LOGGING DATE:** 11/13/2006  
**ACTION OFFICE:** EDO

**AUTHOR:** REP Edward Markey  
**AFFILIATION:** CONG  
**ADDRESSEE:** Dale Klein  
**SUBJECT:** Concerns Commission's ongoing efforts to provide specifications and guidelines for future nuclear reactors

**ACTION:** Signature of Chairman  
**DISTRIBUTION:** RF, OCA to Ack

**LETTER DATE:** 11/09/2006  
**ACKNOWLEDGED** No  
**SPECIAL HANDLING:**

**NOTES:** Commission Correspondence  
**FILE LOCATION:** ADAMS  
**DATE DUE:** 11/27/2006 **DATE SIGNED:**

EDO --G20060919

EDWARD J. MARKEY  
7TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

RANKING MEMBER  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND  
THE INTERNET

HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE

RESOURCES COMMITTEE

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-2107

November 9, 2006

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The Honorable Dale E. Klein  
Chairman  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD, 20852

Dear Chairman Klein:

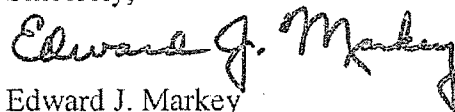
I am writing regarding the Commission's ongoing efforts to provide specifications and guidelines for any new nuclear reactors that may be constructed in the future. I believe it is imperative that any new nuclear reactors be required to incorporate technologies and other means to mitigate the damages caused by and potential consequences of a terrorist attack.

The NRC recently held a Commission meeting (see <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/tr/2006/>) for transcripts of the October 16, 2006 session) regarding its preparations to license a new generation of nuclear reactors. During that meeting, Commissioner Jaczko cited the importance of including regulatory requirements to address the vulnerabilities associated with the impact of a large commercial airliner for their proposed new reactor designs. Other Commissioners disagreed with Dr. Jaczko.

I believe that not only must the NRC ensure that new reactor designs incorporate features that would assist in the reactor's (as well as associated structures such as the spent fuel storage area, and offsite electrical and cooling systems) ability to withstand the impact of a large commercial airliner, but it should also consider the impact of a large truck bomb such as the ones used in the 1993 World Trade Center or Oklahoma City bombings.

After the attacks of 9/11, the nuclear industry was compelled to spend considerable resources on security guards, weapons, barriers, and other means necessary to protect against a terrorist attack. But requiring existing reactors (and associated facilities) to be retrofitted with stronger containment structures or other protective barriers so that they could withstand aircraft or other attacks has always been deemed to be too unrealistic or too expensive by members of the industry and some at the Commission. The Commission now has the opportunity to ensure that all future nuclear reactors are designed in a way that fully take into consideration the threat of aircraft strikes or other plausible truck bomb attacks. I urge you in the strongest possible terms to take this opportunity.

Sincerely,

  
Edward J. Markey