

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: May 08, 2007 10:35

PAPER NUMBER: LTR-07-0325

LOGGING DATE: 05/07/2007

ACTION OFFICE: EDO

To: Dyer, NRR

AUTHOR: Bob Leye

AFFILIATION: AFF UNK

ADDRESSEE: Dale Klein

SUBJECT: An insider threat

cys: EDO  
DEDMRS  
DEDR  
DEDIA  
AO  
RW

ACTION: Appropriate

DISTRIBUTION: Chairman, Comrs

LETTER DATE: 05/05/2007

ACKNOWLEDGED No

SPECIAL HANDLING: Made publicly available in ADAMS via EDO/DPC

NOTES:

FILE LOCATION: ADAMS

DATE DUE:

DATE SIGNED:

## CHAIRMAN - An Insider Threat

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**From:** <Bobleyse@aol.com>  
**To:** <Chairman@NRC.gov>  
**Date:** 05/05/2007 11:10 AM  
**Subject:** An Insider Threat

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This belongs in the PDR:

## Saturday, April 21, 2007

### Engineer Accused of Taking Codes to Iran (Copied from AOL)

#### **Engineer Accused of Taking Codes to Iran**

AP April 21, 2007

PHOENIX (AP) - A former engineer at the nation's largest nuclear power plant has been charged with taking computer access codes and software to Iran and using it to download details of plant control rooms and reactors, authorities said. The FBI said there's no indication the plant employee had any terrorist connections.

Mohammad Alavi, who worked at the triple-reactor Palo Verde power plant west of Phoenix, was arrested April 9 at Los Angeles International Airport when he arrived on a flight from Iran, authorities said. Alavi, 49, is a U.S. citizen and denies any wrongdoing, said his attorney, Milagros Cisneros of the Federal Defender's Office in Phoenix.

He is charged with a single count of violating a trade embargo that prohibits Americans from exporting goods and services to Iran. If convicted, he would face up to 21 months in prison.

According to court records, the software is used only for training plant employees, but allowed users access to details on the Palo Verde control rooms and the plant layout. In October, authorities alleged, the software was used to download training materials from Tehran, using a Palo Verde user identification.

The FBI said there was no evidence to suggest the software access was linked to the Iranian government, which has clashed with the West over attempts to develop its own nuclear program. "The investigation has not led us to believe this information was taken for the purpose of being used by a foreign government or terrorists to attack us," said Deborah McCarley, a spokeswoman for the FBI in Phoenix.

Officials of Arizona Public Service Co., the Phoenix-based utility company that operates the Palo Verde Nuclear Generation Station, said the software does not pose a security risk because it doesn't control any of the nuclear plant's operating systems. However, the utility said it has changed software security procedures since Alavi quit in August after working there for 16 years. "The health and safety of the public was never compromised and there was no threat to the security of Palo Verde," APS spokesman Jim McDonald said Saturday.

**A federal judge in Phoenix denied him bail at a hearing on Friday, saying Alavi had more ties to Iran than the United States and could easily flee. Alavi, who was born in Tehran, has family, a house and a job lined up in Iran, Judge Neil Wake said.**

Palo Verde has been plagued by outages and equipment problems for the past several years. The plant, located about 50 miles west of downtown Phoenix, supplies electricity to some 4 million customers in Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and California.

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**Mail Envelope Properties** (463C9E47.C1B : 0 : 35867)

**Subject:** An Insider Threat  
**Creation Date** Sat, May 5, 2007 11:09 AM  
**From:** <Bobleuse@aol.com>

**Created By:** Bobleuse@aol.com

**Recipients**

nrc.gov

OWGWPO02.HQGWDO01  
CHAIRMAN

**Post Office**

OWGWPO02.HQGWDO01

**Route**

nrc.gov

| <b>Files</b> | <b>Size</b> | <b>Date &amp; Time</b>         |
|--------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| MESSAGE      | 3031        | Saturday, May 5, 2007 11:09 AM |
| TEXT.htm     | 3999        |                                |
| Mime.822     | 8653        |                                |

**Options**

**Expiration Date:** None  
**Priority:** Standard  
**ReplyRequested:** No  
**Return Notification:** None

**Concealed Subject:** No  
**Security:** Standard

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**Junk Mail settings when this message was delivered**

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Junk Mail handling disabled by Administrator  
Junk List is not enabled  
Junk Mail using personal address books is not enabled  
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