

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 07/27/07

EDO CONTROL: G20070509

DOC DT: 07/13/07

FINAL REPLY:

Senator James M. Inhofe

TO:

Chairman Klein

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

\*\* PRI \*\*

CRC NO: 07-0482

Chairman Klein

DESC:

ROUTING:

Leak of High-Enriched Uranium at the Nuclear Fuel  
Services Plant (EDATS: SECY-2007-0246)

Reyes  
Virgilio  
Kane  
Ash  
Ordaz  
Cyr/Burns  
Weber, NMSS  
Travers, RII  
Zimmerman, NSIR  
Schmidt, OCA  
Persinko, OEDO

DATE: 07/18/07

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

EDO

Rakovan

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Template: SECY-017

E-RIDS: SECY-01

# EDATS

Electronic Document and Action Tracking System



**EDATS Number:** SECY-2007-0246

**Initiating Office:** SECY

## General Information

**Assigned To:** OEDO

**OEDO Due Date:** 7/27/2007 5:00 PM

**Other Assignees:**

**SECY Due Date:** 7/31/2007 5:00 PM

**Subject:** Leak of High-Enriched Uranium at the Nuclear Fuel Services Plant

**Description:**

**CC Routing:** NMSS; Region II; NSIR; OCA

**ADAMS Accession Numbers - Incoming:** NONE

**Response/Package:** NONE

## Other Information

**Cross Reference Number:** G20070509

**Staff Initiated:** NO

**Related Task:**

**Recurring Item:** NO

**File Routing:** EDATS

**Agency Lesson Learned:** NO

## Process Information

**Action Type:** Letter

**Priority:** Medium

**Signature Level:** Chairman Klein

**Sensitivity:** None

**Urgency:** NO

**OEDO Concurrence:** YES

**OCM Concurrence:** NO

**OCA Concurrence:** NO

**Special Instructions:**

## Document Information

**Originator Name:** Senator James M. Inhofe

**Date of Incoming:** 7/13/2007

**Originating Organization:** Congress

**Document Received by SECY Date:** 7/18/2007

**Addressee:** Chairman Klein

**Date Response Requested by Originator:** NONE

**Incoming Task Received:** Letter

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET**

*Date Printed: Jul 18, 2007 09:13*

**PAPER NUMBER:** LTR-07-0482

**LOGGING DATE:** 07/18/2007

**ACTION OFFICE:** EDO

**AUTHOR:** SEN James Inhofe

**AFFILIATION:** CONG

**ADDRESSEE:** CHRM Dale Klein

**SUBJECT:** Concerns communication and the leak of high-enriched uranium at the Nuclear Fuel Services plant in Erwin, Tennessee

**ACTION:** Signature of Chairman

**DISTRIBUTION:** RF, OCA to Ack.

**LETTER DATE:** 07/13/2007

**ACKNOWLEDGED** No

**SPECIAL HANDLING:**

**NOTES:**

**FILE LOCATION:** ADAMS

**DATE DUE:** 07/31/2007

**DATE SIGNED:**

EDO --G20070509

BARBARA BOXER, CALIFORNIA, CHAIRMAN

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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

July 13, 2007

BETTINA POIRIER, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR  
ANDREW WHEELER, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

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

Dear Chairman Klein,

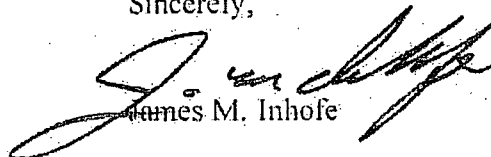
When your nomination was pending before this Committee in May of 2006, you stated your belief that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's policy should be one of openness. I recall you also said, "So what I often times tell people when issues come up, there are usually three reasons: communication, communication, communication." I couldn't agree more with both of those points.

Unfortunately, there has been a considerable lack of communication on the part of the Commission. In particular, I am referring to the leak of high-enriched uranium at the Nuclear Fuel Services plant in Erwin, Tennessee. This event happened prior to your chairmanship, but the communication failure continued well after you assumed the helm. I am both surprised and sorely disappointed.

The foundation of the Commission's credibility is the public's trust. That foundation is shaken when events like these are obscured by the Commission's lack of disclosure. While there may be aspects of Nuclear Fuel Services' activities that should rightly be withheld from the public domain, clearly the secrecy over the event's mere occurrence is beyond any reasonable definition of openness.

I know that you share my belief that nuclear energy must play an increasing role in our nation's growing demand for energy. This will not happen unless and until the public and this Committee have confidence that the Commission will ensure public health and safety, and protect the environment. I am greatly concerned that missteps like this will hinder our nation's ability to expand this safe, clean, and necessary domestic energy source.

Sincerely,

  
James M. Inhofe