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February 27, 2006

Chairman Nils J. Diaz, Ph.D.
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Re: Proposed Renewal of the Operating License for Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station, Docket No. 50-219-LR

Dear Chairman Diaz:

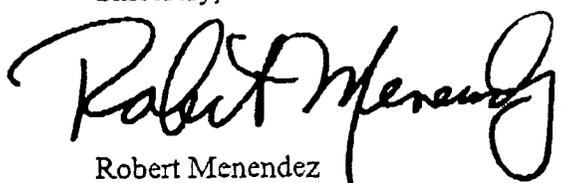
I am writing to ask the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to hold a public hearing on safety issues related to the license renewal for the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station located in Lacey Township, particularly regarding the potential corrosion in the drywell. A coalition of public interest groups has petitioned the NRC for a public hearing on this issue, and I believe such a hearing is warranted.

Safety is my highest priority when it comes to the operation of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station, and I believe that the NRC should take every possible step to determine whether or not it is in a condition that would allow it to operate safely for an additional 20 years past the expiration of its current license. The issue of corrosion in the drywell has recently been brought to my attention by constituents and a series of articles in the *Asbury Park Press*, and I hope that the NRC addresses this issue in a timely manner.

In the interest of making sure that the license renewal process moves forward with the clear message to the community that safety concerns are going to be taken seriously and reviewed thoroughly, I respectfully request that you convene a public hearing in the vicinity of the Oyster Creek Station, and pursuant to 10 CFR 2.315, allow people who are not parties to the petition to make limited appearances.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Robert Menendez
United States Senator