



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV
612 EAST LAMAR BLVD, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4125

February 11, 2009

The Honorable Andy Rash
Hood County Judge
100 East Pearl Street, Room 7
Granbury, TX 76048

Dear Judge Rash:

I am pleased to invite you to visit our office in Arlington on the morning of March 4th to observe our participation in a radiological emergency preparedness (REP) exercise involving the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station. The exercise observation will be followed by a working lunch in my office which will give us an opportunity to discuss our mutual needs and priorities for the upcoming Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant REP exercise. I have also invited Judge Maynard from Somervell County to attend as well as representatives of the Texas Department of State Health Services and Division of Emergency Management.

Although the NRC's response function is not tailored like that of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to achieve a broad spectrum of tasks, we take our role as the technical coordinating agency for nuclear power plant event response seriously and consider ourselves to be an essential element of the integrated response. Therefore, we make every effort to participate in REP exercises at power plants to the maximum extent of our resource and budgetary capabilities. Our last participation in a Comanche Peak exercise was in the fall of 2003.

Because of the technical nature of the NRC's response activities, they may not be as easily understood as FEMA's logistical response role. I hope that by observing our activities during the Palo Verde exercise, you might be able to understand our response priorities and how to call on the NRC as a support resource for you to better achieve your own priorities. I also would welcome any comments and observations from your perspective as to how we can improve our support to the integrated response.

The enclosed is a tentative agenda of activities planned for March 4th. One restriction I would like to make you aware of is the fact that cell phones, Blackberries, cameras and other recording or transmitting devices are not permitted in our incident response center while it is activated. I hope this does not present an unacceptable burden to you. If you can attend, please contact Mrs. Linda Howell, Chief of our Response Coordination Branch, at 817-860-8213 or by e-mail to Linda.howell@nrc.gov for more information.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Elmo E. Collins
Regional Administrator

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/enclosure :
Chief, Technological Hazards Branch
FEMA Region VI
800 North Loop 288
Federal Regional Center
Denton, TX 76209-3698
Lisa.hammond@dhs.gov

bcc w/enclosure (via e-mail):

Elmo.Collins@nrc.gov
 Chuck.Casto@nrc.gov
 Roy.Caniano@nrc.gov
 Troy.Pruett@nrc.gov
 Linda.Howell@nrc.gov
 Bill.Maier@nrc.gov
 Tom.Andrews@nrc.gov
 Beth.Alferink@nrc.gov
 Linda.McLean@nrc.gov

File located: s:\ras\!maier W\Invitation letter to Judge Rash 3-4-09.doc

SUNSI Rev Compl.	X Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	ADAMS	X Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Reviewer Initials	wam
Publicly Avail	X Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Sensitive	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes X No	Sens. Type Initials	
RIV:ORA:RSLO	C:RCB	DRA	RA		
WAMaier	LLHowell	CACasto	EECollins		
/RA/	/RA RDA for/	/RA/	/RA/		
02/10/09	02/10/09	02/11/09	02/11/09		

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

T=Telephone

E=E-mail

F=Fax

AGENDA FOR PALO VERDE EXERCISE VISIT
March 4, 2009

Time	Activity	Contact
8:45 a.m.	Arrive at Region IV	Phil Longdo 817-276-4499
9:00 a.m.	Welcome	Elmo Collins 817-860-8225
9:15 a.m.	In-brief and tour of incident response center	Linda Howell 817-917-1222
9:45 a.m. (approx.)	Observation of NRC response activities	Linda Howell 817-917-1222
12:00 p.m.	Working lunch and discussion of Comanche Peak exercise participation	Elmo Collins/ Troy Pruett/ Linda Howell 817-860-8225
1:00 p.m.	Departure	

Enclosure