



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 23, 2009

The Honorable Al Franken
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Franken:

Thank you for your September 14, 2009 letter regarding the recent tritium release at the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant. I am pleased that you and your staff found my office's notification of this event timely and helpful.

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) continues to monitor this situation and efforts to remediate this issue. Per your request and per your staff's conversations with my office, we will continue to keep your staff updated on new developments related to the tritium release and any NRC actions taken. More broadly, my office will provide your staff with timely updates regarding Monticello, the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, and other NRC-licensed facilities in Minnesota.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 301-415-1776 if my office can further assist you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

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ACTION OFFICE: OCA

AUTHOR: SEN Al Franken
AFFILIATION: CONG
ADDRESSEE: Gregory Jaczko
SUBJECT: Urges the NRC to monitor the tritium levels at the Monticello Nuclear Power Plants and provide updates

ACTION: Signature of Director, OCA
DISTRIBUTION: RF

LETTER DATE: 09/14/2009
ACKNOWLEDGED: No
SPECIAL HANDLING:

NOTES:
FILE LOCATION: ADAMS

DATE DUE: 10/07/2009 **DATE SIGNED:**

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2309

September 14, 2009

The Honorable Gregory B. Jaczko
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop O-16G4
Washington, DC 20555

The Honorable Dale E. Klein
Commissioner
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop O-16G4
Washington, DC 20555

The Honorable Kristine L. Svinicki
Commissioner
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop O-16G4
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Commissioners:

It has come to my attention that elevated tritium levels have been found in monitoring wells below the reactor building at Monticello Nuclear Power Plant in Minnesota. I understand our staffs have been in touch on this issue, and although this appears to pose no immediate safety concern for plant employees or neighboring communities, I ask that you remain vigilant to ensure continued public safety.

Nuclear power is an important part of our national energy strategy. However, we must anticipate every possible adverse event and take every conceivable precaution. To that end, I ask that you provide me with regular updates as you continue to monitor the situation and take every possible action to remediate it.

Thank you for all of your work to ensure our nation's safety.

Sincerely,



Al Franken
United States Senator