

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 01/11/10

EDO CONTROL: G20100048

DOC DT: 01/02/10

FINAL REPLY:

Senator Patrick Leahy
Senator Bernard Sanders
Representative Peter Welch

TO:

Chairman Jaczko

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

** PRI **

CRC NO: 10-0025

Chairman Jaczko

DESC:

Contamination on the Grounds of Vermont Yankee
Nuclear Plant (EDATS: SECY-2010-0062)

ROUTING:

Borchardt
Virgilio
Mallett
Ash
Mamish
Burns/Rothschild
Leeds, NRR
Collins, RI
Burns, OGC
Schmidt, OCA

DATE: 01/27/10

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

EDO

Rihm

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Please prepare response in accordance with OEDO
Notice 2009-0441-02 (ML093290179). NRR, RI and OGC
to provide input to Roger Rihm, OEDO, if required.
Roger Rihm will coordinate response with OGC and
OCA. NOTE: The 1/15/10 letter has not been tasked
to OEDO, at this time.

Template: SECY-017

E-RIDS: SECY-01

EDATS

Electronic Document and Action Tracking System

EDATS Number: SECY-2010-0062

Source: SECY

General Information

Assigned To: OEDO

OEDO Due Date: 2/11/2010

Other Assignees:

SECY Due Date: 2/16/2010

Subject: Contamination on the Grounds of Vermont Yankee Nuclear Plant

Description:

CC Routing: NRR; RegionI; OGC; OCA

ADAMS Accession Numbers - Incoming: NONE

Response/Package: NONE

Other Information

Cross Reference Number: G20100048, LTR-10-0025

Staff Initiated: NO

Related Task:

Recurring Item: NO

File Routing: EDATS

Agency Lesson Learned: NO

OEDO Monthly Report Item: NO

Process Information

Action Type: Letter

Priority: Medium

Signature Level: Chairman Jaczko

Sensitivity: None

Urgency: NO

Approval Level: No Approval Required

OEDO Concurrence: YES

OCM Concurrence: NO

OCA Concurrence: NO

Special Instructions: Please prepare response in accordance with OEDO Notice 2009-0441-02 (ML093290179). NRR, RI and OGC to provide input to Roger Rihm, OEDO, if required. Roger Rihm will coordinate response with OGC and OCA.

Document Information

Originator Name: Sen. Leahy/Sen. Sanders/Rep. Welch

Date of Incoming: 1/22/2010

Originating Organization: Congress

Document Received by SECY Date: 1/27/2010

Addressee: Chairman Jaczko

Date Response Requested by Originator: NONE

Incoming Task Received: Letter

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Jan 26, 2010 16:51

PAPER NUMBER: LTR-10-0025 **LOGGING DATE:** 01/25/2010
ACTION OFFICE: EDO

AUTHOR: REP Patrick Leahy
AFFILIATION: CONG
ADDRESSEE: Gregory Jaczko
SUBJECT: Follow up to January 15, 2010 letter regarding contamination on the grounds of the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant

ACTION: Signature of Chairman
DISTRIBUTION: RF, OCA to Ack

LETTER DATE: 01/22/2010
ACKNOWLEDGED: No
SPECIAL HANDLING: Commission Correspondence

NOTES:
FILE LOCATION: ADAMS

DATE DUE: 02/15/2010 **DATE SIGNED:**

EDO --G20100048

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

January 22, 2010

The Honorable Gregory B. Jaczko
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Jaczko:

We write to follow up on our letter of January 15, in light of further alarming news regarding contamination on the grounds of the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant.

Since our initial letter, the levels of tritium found in the surface water leak are reported to have tested at up to 2 million picocuries per liter, according to an NRC spokesman, or 100 times the safe drinking water level prescribed by EPA. Further, a state investigator reported last night that a trace amount of cobalt-60, a more dangerous radioactive isotope, has been found in an enclosed concrete trench at the nuclear power plant.

These recent developments coupled with our ongoing concerns about Entergy Vermont Yankee's commitment to safety and forthrightness with the public and regulatory and safety agencies, force us to reiterate our request for an immediate and thorough investigation. This investigation should not only determine whether there was an attempt by Entergy Vermont Yankee to mislead state officials regarding the plant's safety and underground piping, but also provide a complete and accurate assessment of the full scope of the contamination at and near the plant as soon as possible.

We remain committed to assisting Vermont and the NRC to ensure that the Entergy Vermont Yankee plant meets its safety and disclosure obligations. This immediate and thorough assessment of the full extent of contamination is critical to our meeting that commitment.

We look forward to discussing the recent findings and your investigation into them with you at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

Sincerely,



PATRICK LEAHY
United States Senator



BERNARD SANDERS
United States Senator



PETER WELCH
United States Representative