

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 05/27/10

EDO CONTROL: G20100290
DOC DT: 05/07/10
FINAL REPLY:

Representative David Price

TO:

Chairman Jaczko

FOR SIGNATURE OF : ** PRI **

CRC NO: 10-0215

Chairman Jaczko

DESC:

Fire Protection at Nuclear Facilities
(EDATS: SECY-2010-0262)

ROUTING:

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

DATE: 05/11/10

ASSIGNED TO: CONTACT:

EDO

Rihm

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

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

Template: SECY-017

E-RIDS: SECY-01

EDATS

Electronic Document and Action Tracking System

EDATS Number: SECY-2010-0262

Source: SECY

General Information

Assigned To: OEDO

OEDO Due Date: 5/27/2010 11:00 PM

Other Assignees:

SECY Due Date: 6/1/2010 11:00 PM

Subject: Fire Protection at Nuclear Facilities

Description:

CC Routing: NRR; OCA; OGC

ADAMS Accession Numbers - Incoming: NONE

Response/Package: NONE

Other Information

Cross Reference Number: G20100290, LTR-10-0215

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

Sensitivity: None

Signature Level: Chairman Jaczko

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 to provide input to Roger Rihm, OEDO, if required. Roger Rihm will coordinate with OGC and OCA.

Document Information

Originator Name: Representative David Price

Date of Incoming: 5/7/2010

Originating Organization: Congress

Document Received by SECY Date: 5/11/2010

Addressee: Chairman Jaczko

Date Response Requested by Originator: NONE

Incoming Task Received: Letter

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: May 10, 2010 17:36

PAPER NUMBER: LTR-10-0215 **LOGGING DATE:** 05/10/2010
ACTION OFFICE: EDO
AUTHOR: REP David Price
AFFILIATION: CONG
ADDRESSEE: CHRM Gregory Jaczko
SUBJECT: Request for status in regards to fire protection at nuclear facilities
ACTION: Signature of Chairman
DISTRIBUTION: RF, OCA to Ack.
LETTER DATE: 05/07/2010
ACKNOWLEDGED: No
SPECIAL HANDLING: Commission Correspondence
NOTES:
FILE LOCATION: ADAMS
DATE DUE: 06/01/2010 **DATE SIGNED:**

EDO --G20100290

DAVID PRICE
4TH DISTRICT
NORTH CAROLINA



COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
CHAIR, HOMELAND SECURITY
TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
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AND RELATED AGENCIES

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

May 7, 2010

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Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop O-16G4
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Jaczko:

As Congress and the Administration consider an expanded role for nuclear power in our national energy portfolio, it is essential to ensure public trust in the NRC as a guarantor of nuclear safety. As you know, I have ongoing concerns about the adequacy of the Commission's fire safety enforcement at nuclear facilities, and I am writing to inquire about the status of your efforts in this area.

In 2008, the Government Accountability Office issued a report which found that the NRC was not enforcing its own fire safety standards, and the NRC Inspector General found that the Commission had ignored evidence that the fire safety insulation used by some plants was not adequate. In light of these findings, Congress included language in the Fiscal Year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations bill directing the Commission to ensure that the new risk-based fire protection standards (NFPA 805) are developed in a transparent manner and subject to peer review. The NRC was also asked to report to Congress on the status of all licensee compliance with either the new NFPA 805 regulations or existing fire safety requirements.

In a May 2009 report, NRC responded with confidence about the adequacy of fire safety standards at all nuclear facilities. However, the report also stated that "it is the NRC's goal to have licensees in compliance with the regulations without reliance on compensatory measures." Can you update me on the status of the Commission's efforts in this regard? In particular, I would like to know the status of the fire safety pilot projects and the timeline for licensees to comply with the new risk-based measures, as well as the implementation of any necessary regulatory changes.

In addition, there is continued concern in my congressional district among local elected officials, advocates, and members of the public, about the NFPA 805 regulations being implemented as part of the risk-based measure pilot program at the Shearon Harris nuclear plant in North Carolina. I appreciate your taking time to meet personally with some of my constituents to discuss the NFPA 805 program in depth, and I would ask that you respond to the concerns they have raised expeditiously.

Again, thank you for your time and ongoing attention to fire safety at our nation's nuclear facilities. If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or direct your staff to Kate Roetzer of my office at (202) 225-1784.

Sincerely,

David Price
Member of Congress