

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 04/19/11

EDO CONTROL: G20110237
DOC DT: 03/30/11
FINAL REPLY:

Senator Maria Cantwell

TO:

Chairman Jaczko

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

** PRI **

CRC NO: 11-0174

Chairman Jaczko

DESC:

ROUTING:

Level of Risk from Accident at Japan's Fukushima
Daiichi Nuclear Poses on Washington State
(EDATS: SECY-2011-0185)

Borchardt
Weber
Virgilio
Ash
Muessle
OGC/GC
Sheron, RES
Wiggins, NSIR
Leeds, NRR
Burns, OGC
Schmidt, OCA

DATE: 04/01/11

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

EDO

Rihm

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

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

Template: SECY-017

ERIDS: SECY-01

EDATS

Electronic Document and Action Tracking System



EDATS Number: SECY-2011-0185

Source: SECY

General Information

Assigned To: OEDO

OEDO Due Date: 4/19/2011 11:00 PM

Other Assignees:

SECY Due Date: 4/21/2011 11:00 PM

Subject: Level of Risk from Accident at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Poses on Washington State

Description:

CC Routing: RES; NSIR; NRR; RegionIV; OGC; OCA

ADAMS Accession Numbers - Incoming: NONE

Response/Package: NONE

Other Information

Cross Reference Number: G20110237, LTR-11-0174

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). RES, NSIR and NRR to provide input to Roger Rihm, OEDO, if required. Roger Rihm will coordinate response with OGC and OCA.

Document Information

Originator Name: Senator Maria Cantwell

Date of Incoming: 3/30/2011

Originating Organization: Congress

Document Received by SECY Date: 4/1/2011

Addressee: Chairman Jaczko

Date Response Requested by Originator: NONE

Incoming Task Received: Letter

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Mar 31, 2011 11:04

PAPER NUMBER: LTR-11-0174 **LOGGING DATE:** 03/31/2011
ACTION OFFICE: EDO
AUTHOR: SEN Maria Cantwell
AFFILIATION: CONG
ADDRESSEE: Gregory Jaczko
SUBJECT: Concerns the level of risk that the accident at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear poses on residents in Washington State
ACTION: Signature of Chairman
DISTRIBUTION: RF, OCA to Ack
LETTER DATE: 03/30/2011
ACKNOWLEDGED: No
SPECIAL HANDLING: Commission Correspondence
NOTES:
FILE LOCATION: ADAMS
DATE DUE: 04/21/2011 **DATE SIGNED:**

Rec'd. OEDO/ACS:
7:45 a.m., April 1, 2011

EDO --G20110237

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

COMMITTEES:
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION
ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES
FINANCE
INDIAN AFFAIRS
SMALL BUSINESS

March 30, 2011

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Jaczko and Commissioners Svinicki, Apostolakis, Magwood, and Ostendorff:

I am writing to request your assistance in assessing the level of risk that the tragedy at Japan's Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear complex poses to my constituents in Washington State. Public health officials in Washington state have stated that the levels of radiation detected are currently far below those that would constitute a risk to human health, yet the presence of radioactive materials from this accident in any quantity remains a matter of significant public concern.

In this regard, I would ask that you address the following questions in as timely a manner as possible:

- Does the accumulated amount of radioactive contamination from the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear complex that has been detected within Washington state so far pose any level of short or long term health risk?
- What is the likelihood that larger amounts of radioactive contamination will reach Washington State and what risk might this radiation pose to human health in both the short and long term?
- What would be the possible impacts of a total reactor core meltdown in one or more of the damaged reactors have on human health, agriculture, fisheries, or ecosystems within Washington state?
- How much monitoring for ionizing radiation is occurring within Washington state and what entities are undertaking these activities? Do monitors only detect amounts of xenon-133, cesium-137, and iodine -131, and if so are there potentially additional risks from other unmonitored radioactive particles?
- Given current risks and uncertainties regarding a fluid situation, what precautionary and preparatory measures do you recommend the public take?

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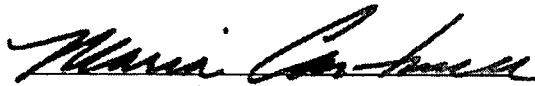
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- Many of the thousands of U.S. expatriates and military dependents currently being evacuated from Japan will transit through the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. Is it likely that these refugees will require treatment for exposure to radiation and radioactive materials, and does their return presents any health risk to the broader U.S. public?

Thank you very much for your attention to these questions and for your staff's determined efforts to assist the Japanese government and inform Congress and the general public. I appreciate that this is an extremely busy time for the Commission, but would appreciate a prompt response to these questions which I can forward on to my concerned constituents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maria Cantwell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Maria Cantwell
United States Senator