

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 05/04/11

EDO CONTROL: G20110267  
DOC DT: 03/31/11  
FINAL REPLY:

Senator Richard Blumenthal

TO:

Chairman Jaczko

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

\*\* PRI \*\*

CRC NO: 11-0205

Chairman Jaczko

DESC:

ROUTING:

Assessment of the Safety and Viability of  
America's On-Site Nuclear Waste Storage Facilities  
(EDATS: SECY-2011-0228)

Borchardt  
Weber  
Virgilio  
Ash  
Muessle  
OGC/GC  
Haney, NMSS  
Scott, FSME  
Burns, OGC  
Schmidt, OCA

DATE: 04/15/11

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

EDO

Rihm

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

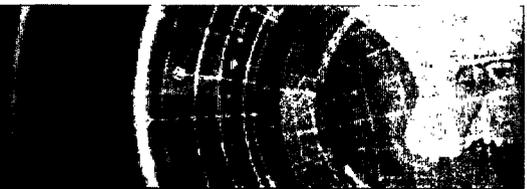
Please prepare response in accordance with OEDO  
Notice 2009-0441-02 (ML093290179). NMSS and FSME  
to provide input to Roger Rihm, OEDO, if required.  
Roger Rihm to coordinate response with OGC and OCA.

Template: SECY-017

E-RIDS: SECY-01

# EDATS

Electronic Document and Action Tracking System



**EDATS Number:** SECY-2011-0228

**Source:** SECY

## General Information

**Assigned To:** OEDO

**OEDO Due Date:** 5/4/2011 11:00 PM

**Other Assignees:**

**SECY Due Date:** 5/6/2011 11:00 PM

**Subject:** Assessment of the Safety and Viability of America's On-Site Nuclear Waste Storage Facilities

**Description:**

**CC Routing:** NMSS; FSME; OGC; OCA

**ADAMS Accession Numbers - Incoming:** NONE

**Response/Package:** NONE

## Other Information

**Cross Reference Number:** G20110267, LTR-11-0205

**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). NMSS and FSME to provide input to Roger Rihm, OEDO, if required. Roger Rihm will coordinate response with OGC and OCA.

## Document Information

**Originator Name:** Senator Richard Blumenthal

**Date of Incoming:** 3/31/2011

**Originating Organization:** Congress

**Document Received by SECY Date:** 4/15/2011

**Addressee:** Chairman Jaczko

**Date Response Requested by Originator:** NONE

**Incoming Task Received:** Letter

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Apr 14, 2011 16:50

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**PAPER NUMBER:** LTR-11-0205 **LOGGING DATE:** 04/11/2011  
**ACTION OFFICE:** EDO

**AUTHOR:** SEN Richard Blumenthal  
**AFFILIATION:** CONG  
**ADDRESSEE:** Gregory Jaczko  
**SUBJECT:** Assessment of the safety and viability of U.S. on-site nuclear waste storage facilities

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

**LETTER DATE:** 03/31/2011  
**ACKNOWLEDGED:** No  
**SPECIAL HANDLING:** Chairman Correspondence

**NOTES:**

**FILE LOCATION:** ADAMS

**DATE DUE:** 05<sup>6</sup>/~~03~~/2011 **DATE SIGNED:**

EDO --G20110267

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 31, 2011

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

Dear Chairman Jaczko:

I am writing to ask for your assessment of the safety and viability of America's on-site nuclear waste storage facilities.

As you know, 1019 spent fuel assemblies are currently stored in 43 dry storage casks at the former Connecticut Yankee nuclear site in Haddam Neck, CT. Several hundred fuel assemblies are also stored in 19 dry storage casks at Connecticut's Millstone Power Station, and nearly two thousand additional spent fuel assemblies are stored in the facility's spent fuel pool. The costs associated with this storage are considerable; Connecticut's utility ratepayers spend millions of dollars each year on waste storage—\$8 million for the storage of approximately 412 tons at Haddam Neck alone.

As Congress awaits the preliminary recommendations of the President's Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future, the American public and people of Connecticut deserve to have the answers to several serious questions relating to the storage of our nuclear waste:

- Has the NRC determined how long nuclear waste can safely be stored at reactor sites until a long-term storage solution is identified?
- Does the NRC have data about how much spent nuclear fuel is currently stored at various sites across the United States, in both dry storage and spent fuel pools? How often is this data updated?
- What steps has the NRC taken to ensure that these on-site storage facilities, such as the one located in Haddam Neck, are properly maintained and secured against natural disasters or man-made catastrophes, including terrorist attacks?

Thank you for your attention to this request and for your continuing work to ensure that America's nuclear industry operates in a safe and reliable manner.

Sincerely,



Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senate