

July 26, 2012

Mr. Paul E. Giauque
5 Juniper Drive
Windsor Locks, CT 06096-2605

Dear Mr. Giauque:

I am responding to your letter of May 26, 2012, to Dr. Gregory Jaczko, former Chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), regarding your proposed possible solution for the disposal of spent nuclear fuel.

Your letter recommends that “spent nuclear fuel could be buried at Chernoble [sic] with the Russians charging a fee for disposal.”

Consistent with statutory requirements¹, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is responsible for developing the national nuclear waste management strategy and for its implementation. DOE is currently reviewing the recommendations from the Blue Ribbon Commission on America’s Nuclear Future and will assess the need to modify its nuclear waste management strategy. We expect DOE to provide its assessment to Congress this summer.

The mission of the NRC as an independent regulatory agency is to license and regulate the Nation’s civilian use of byproduct, source, and special nuclear materials in order to protect public health and safety, promote the common defense and security, and protect the environment. The NRC reviews applications and will license facilities that meet our regulations. NRC regulations also provide procedures for hearings associated with some NRC licensing actions. For more information on the roles and responsibilities of the NRC, please see www.nrc.gov/.

We appreciate your interest in the safe and secure disposal of nuclear waste.

Sincerely,

/RA/
Scott Morris, Acting Director
Division of Spent Fuel Alternative
Strategies

¹The Nuclear Waste Policy Act directs DOE to dispose spent nuclear fuel in a geologic repository.

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