



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 24, 2011

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Chairman, Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Chairman:

Pursuant to your letter of March 31, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission continues to provide documents that are responsive to your request. This transmittal includes an additional set of documents responsive to your letter. We are continuing to search for further responsive documents and will provide those records as soon as we identify them.

Please note that the documents in this delivery have not been released to the public and have been marked "not for public release." We respectfully ask that the Committee honor these markings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt
Director, Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:
As stated



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 19, 2011

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Chairman, Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Chairman:

Pursuant to your letter of March 31, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission continues to provide documents that are responsive to your request. This transmittal includes an additional set of documents responsive to your letter. We are continuing to search for further responsive documents and will provide those records as soon as we identify them.

Please note that the documents in this delivery have not been released to the public and have been marked "not for public release." We respectfully ask that the Committee honor these markings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt
Director, Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:
As stated



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 10, 2011

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Chairman, Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Chairman:

Pursuant to your letter of March 31, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission continues to provide documents that are responsive to your request. This transmittal includes an additional set of documents responsive to your letter. We are continuing to search for further responsive documents and will provide those records as soon as we identify them.

Please note that the documents in this delivery have not been released to the public and have been marked "not for public release." We respectfully ask that the Committee honor these markings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca L. Schmidt", is written over a circular stamp or seal.

Rebecca L. Schmidt
Director, Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:
As stated



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 29, 2011

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Chairman, Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Chairman:

Pursuant to your letter of March 31, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission continues to provide documents that are responsive to your request. This transmittal includes a partial set of documents responsive to your letter. We are continuing to search for further responsive documents and will provide those records as soon as we identify them.

Please note that the documents in this delivery have not been released to the public and have been marked "not for public release." We respectfully ask that the Committee honor these markings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt
Director, Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:
As stated



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 18, 2011

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Chairman, Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Chairman:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated March 31, 2011, requesting records concerning the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) recent decisions on the Yucca Mountain repository. One requested item, a preliminary draft of Volume III of the Safety Evaluation Report, was delivered to your staff on April 11, 2011.

We are continuing to search for further responsive documents and will provide these records as we identify them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

H/F

April 11, 2011

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Chairman, Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Madam Chairman:

In response to your letter of March 31, 2011, regarding the Yucca Mountain project, the Commission has asked me to provide the unredacted version of Volume III of the Safety Evaluation Report (SER) for the Yucca Mountain license application. Volume III in unredacted form is not publicly available at this time, and the Commission requests that the Committee hold it in confidence.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's staff considers this document pre-decisional. None of the Commissioners have had access to it in its unredacted form. The Commission has received copies of only those portions that were released to the public as a result of a Freedom of Information Act request.

The agency continues to produce documents responding to the remaining requests in your March 31, 2011 letter, and will provide those to the Committee as you have requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rebecca L. Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
Draft SER Volume III for the Yucca
Mountain license application –
NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

BARBARA BOXER, CALIFORNIA, CHAIRMAN

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

BETTINA PORIER, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR
RUTH VAN MARK, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

March 31, 2011

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

Honorable Chairman Jaczko:

As Chairman of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, which has jurisdiction over safety issues with nuclear energy, I am writing to request records concerning the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) recent decisions on the Yucca Mountain repository.

For many years I have expressed grave concerns regarding the Yucca Mountain project. Storing nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain presents many serious problems, included transporting thousands of shipments of high-level radioactive waste through heavily-populated communities and predictions that Yucca Mountain will leak radiation into groundwater that will migrate into California. Groundwater in California is a precious resource that is used for drinking water and that can be a source of surface waters used by both people and wildlife.


The recent catastrophe in Japan triggered by the earthquake highlights another serious danger of the Yucca Mountain project. The United States Geological Survey (USGS) ranks Nevada as one of the top states at risk of earthquakes -- Nevada is ranked fourth out of the fifty states, having experienced almost 800 earthquakes from 1974 and 2003. The USGS has also found that Yucca Mountain is in an area with earthquake faults, including a fault that runs under the project.

After years of mounting safety concerns, the NRC's FY 2011 Congressional Budget Justification finally described the government's plans for the orderly closure of the Yucca Mountain licensing activities. This is welcome news in light of the years of controversy surrounding this project and recent tragic events.

In an effort to benefit from the work that went into the final decision, I request all documents, discussions and communications (hereafter "information") related to the NRC's decision to undertake this orderly closure. The NRC's response to this request should include but not be limited to all information related to the NRC's decisions on the license application, information concerning interactions between NRC and the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, votes by NRC commissioners related to this issue, information related to Yucca Mountain's Safety Evaluation

Reports (including Volume III and any subsequent document), information on the use of Nuclear Waste Fund resources and all other such information related to this issue. Please contact Kathy Dedrick or Grant Cope (202/224-8832) with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara Boxer", with a stylized, flowing script.

Barbara Boxer
Chairman