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**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 209**

**DATE:** *February 11, 1976*

**TO:** *All NRC Employees*

**SUBJECT:** *FREE FLOW OF INTERNAL INFORMATION AND VIEWPOINTS*

*Your attention is directed to the attached memorandum from Chairman Anders.*

*I wish to reaffirm my policy of having an open door to any employee who may wish to discuss in confidence any problem or concern she or he may have.*

  
*Lee V. Gossick*  
Executive Director  
for Operations

*Enclosure  
Memorandum to Lee V. Gossick, EDO  
from Chairman Anders dtd 2/10/76*



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

FEB 10 1976

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRMAN

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lee V. Gossick, EDO

FROM: William A. Anders, Chairman

The free flow of internal information and viewpoints is the foundation of sound regulation. I want to take this opportunity on behalf of the whole Commission to reemphasize to you and through you to the entire staff the importance of a free flow of information and views. The doors of the Commissioners' offices are always open to employees who believe that they have no other channels in which to express these views effectively. If any NRC employee has information he wishes to convey to me, he has only to seek an appointment, and he may be assured that his confidence will be protected. All of the Commissioners have reaffirmed to me that this has been and continues to be their policy as well.

Each employee should also be made aware that the Commission intends the Office of Inspector and Auditor to provide a similar opportunity for communication of views. As the Commission has several times stated, we view this office in substantial part as serving in an independent watchdog capacity for the Commission. It follows that Commission employees should feel free to take concerns they may have to OIA without risk of adverse action against them for having done so.

Finally I should like you and all the office directors to reemphasize your own commitment to free and open communication within the Commission. This ought to include not only the regular chain by which most issues will be presented and resolved, but regular meetings or other occasions with staff at all levels at which employee concerns of every sort can be aired.

As you well know, none of these measures reflects change in course or practice for the Commission. Recent developments, including allegations that dissenting employees are unable to bring their views to the attention of top management within the Commission, however, have suggested the appropriateness of reaffirming our commitment to a regulatory process which is open internally as well as externally. Please take the necessary steps to convey these views to the attention of every NRC employee. This should include providing a copy of this memorandum to each employee.