

October 7, 2016

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter of August 22, 2016, regarding the security of radioactive material licensed by the NRC. Specifically, you posed a number of questions and requested that we address the steps and schedule for undertaking any future corrective actions necessary to ensure the continuing security of such material.

Responses to your specific questions are enclosed. However, please note that the NRC has two substantial efforts currently underway that, when complete, will provide information that will help determine the details of any future steps and enable the scheduling of those activities. First, as required by the "Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015," the NRC will be reporting to Congress in December 2016 the results of our program review of 10 CFR Part 37, "Physical Protection of Category 1 and Category 2 Quantities of Radioactive Material." Second, the NRC staff will report to the Commission in 2017 on options to address the recommendations made by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) in its July 2016 report, "Nuclear Security: NRC Has Enhanced the Controls of Dangerous Materials, but Vulnerabilities Remain."

Please be assured that the NRC takes its obligation to ensure the security of licensed radiological material very seriously. The NRC has taken a number of actions to address GAO's recommendations and to continually ensure that the requirements for the protection of radioactive material are effective and suitable for the materials being protected.

If you need any additional information, please contact me or Eugene Dacus, Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, at (301) 415-1776.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Stephen G. Burns

Enclosure:
As stated