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The Honorable Morris Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for the information of the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment is a draft of a new regulatory guide that is being issued together with a draft of the associated value/impact statement for a 60-day public comment period. This is a planned addition to Division 5, "Materials and Plant Protection," of the series of guides developed to describe and make available to the public methods acceptable to the NRC staff of implementing specific parts of the Commission's regulations and, in some cases, to delineate techniques used by the staff in evaluating specific problems or postulated accidents and to provide guidance to applicants concerning certain of the information needed by the staff in its review.

The new draft guide is entitled "Reporting of Safeguards Events" and is temporarily identified by its task number, SG 901-4. The Commission recently published proposed amendments to its regulations in §73.71 or 10 CFR Part 73, "Physical Protection of Plants and Materials," that would, if adopted, require licensees to report to appropriate offices within the Nuclear Regulatory Commission events that significantly threaten or lessen the effectiveness of their safeguards systems as established by safeguards regulations or by an approved safeguards plan or by both. This guide is being developed to provide an approach acceptable to the NRC staff for determining whether an event should be reported and the format that could be used for reporting the event.

Also enclosed is a Federal Register notice we plan to issue on this matter within the next few days.

IDENTICAL LETTERS TO:
Chairman Gary Hart, Senate
Subcommittee on Nuclear Regulation
cc: Alan Simpson
Chairman John D. Dingell, House
Subcommittee on Energy and Power
cc: Clarence J. Brown
Chairman Toby Moffett, House
Subcommittee on Environment, Energy
and Natural Resources
cc: Paul N. McCloskey, Jr.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Karl R. Goller

Karl R. Goller, Director
Division of Siting, Health and
Safeguards Standards
Office of Standards Development

POOR ORIGINAL

- Enclosures:
1. Draft Regulatory Guide SG 901-4
and Value/Impact Statement
2. Federal Register Notice

SD Task No. SG 901-4

cc: The Honorable Steven D. Symms
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