

JOHN WARNER
VIRGINIA

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United States Senate

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May 10, 1994

Mr. Dennis K. Rathbun
Director
Office of Congressional Affairs
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852

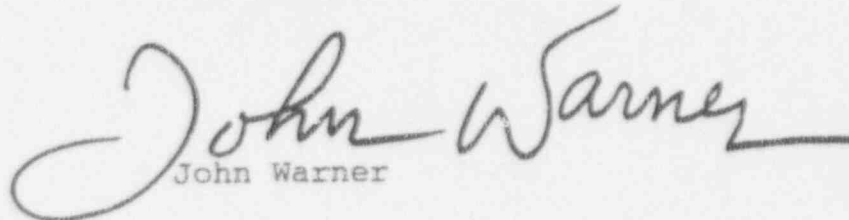
Dear Mr. Rathbun:

Enclosed please find a copy of correspondence I received from Ms. Shari Plank regarding the transport of radioactive materials.

As indicated in her letter, Ms. Plank is concerned that the Department of the Navy and the Department of Energy are exempted from certain NRC regulations. I would appreciate your review of this correspondence and look forward to any information you may provide which would enable me to respond to these concerns. Please direct your comments to my Washington office, attention: M. Smith, at the earliest date possible.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,


John Warner

JW/mb

9406306309 2pp.

10302 Nantucket Court

SHARI PLANK
703-323-9615

Fairfax, VA 22032

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April 22, 1994

The Honorable John W. Warner
United States Senate
225 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Warner:

I have become recently aware that government -- under the smokescreen of national security -- has secretly been permitting transport of highly radioactive materials by rail, without alerting communities along the route. The National Regulatory Commission requires that states be given advanced notification of radioactive materials.

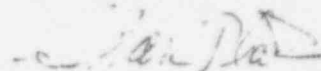
If the waste operations are so safe, why is government denying the public to know how it's transported and disposed of in this country? Apparently on January 25, 1994 just such a clandestine consignment left the Naval Shipyard in Newport News, VA enroute for disposal at the Idaho Engineering Lab (INEL). This was the third such clandestine shipment that occurred.

Both the U.S. Navy and DOE enjoy an exemption from Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations. They claim that shipments are kept secret to protect them from terrorist attack. But if Greenpeace and other anti-nuclear activists can track these shipments, it seems likely that terrorist organizations could do the same. The real reason may be to simply keep the Navy's submarine waste operations clear of public scrutiny. A political cover like this tramples on the public's "right to know."

I urge you, as our Senator, to review these dubious Navy and DOE exemptions to Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations.

Thank you for your continued good work as one of our state's senators.

Sincerely,



Shari Plank

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE SYSTEM
DOCUMENT PREPARATION CHECKLIST

This checklist is to be submitted with each document (or group of Qs/As) sent for filing into the CCS.

1. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT(S) Letter to Sen Warner
2. TYPE OF DOCUMENT ☒ Correspondence ☐ Hearings (Qs/As)
3. DOCUMENT CONTROL ☐ Sensitive (NRC Only) ☒ Non-sensitive
4. CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE and SUBCOMMITTEES (if applicable)

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