

December 13, 1999

Mr. David Lochbaum
Nuclear Safety Engineer
Union of Concerned Scientists
1616 P Street NW., Suite 310
Washington, DC 20036-1495

Dear Mr. Lochbaum:

I would like to acknowledge the receipt of your e-mail message to Mr. John Zwolinski, dated December 1, 1999 (subject line "Level Playing Field"). In the message, you discussed the issue of appeal options available to licensees versus the lack of an appeal process for (1) petitioners under the 10 CFR 2.206 process, and (2) concerned individuals who submit allegations. The NRC staff appreciates your continuing efforts to improve the 10 CFR 2.206 petition process and we look forward to hearing your views on this and other issues during our meeting with your task force on December 15, 1999.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Andrew J. Kugler, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew J. Kugler".

Andrew J. Kugler, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation