

April 24, 2001

The Honorable Richard B. Cheney
President of the United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. President:

I am forwarding our "Report to Congress on Abnormal Occurrences Fiscal Year 2000" for events at nuclear facilities. This report is required by Section 208 of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-438). In the context of the act, an abnormal occurrence (AO) is an unscheduled incident or event that the Commission determines to be significant from the standpoint of public health or safety. The Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-66) requires that AOs be reported to Congress annually.

The report discusses three AOs at facilities licensed or otherwise regulated by NRC. One event involved a steam generator tube failure at a nuclear power plant, the second event resulted in overexposures of occupational workers, and the third event involved a brachytherapy misadministration. The report also discusses six AOs at facilities licensed by Agreement States. Agreement States are those States that have entered into a formal agreement with NRC pursuant to Section 274 of the Atomic Energy Act (AEA) to regulate certain quantities of AEA material at facilities located within their borders. Currently, there are 32 Agreement States. Four of the Agreement State AOs were gamma stereotactic radiosurgery misadministrations, one event was a teletherapy misadministration, and one event was a brachytherapy misadministration.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard A. Meserve

Enclosure: "Report to Congress on Abnormal
Occurrences Fiscal Year 2000"

April 24, 2001

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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