

October 2, 2001

The Honorable Sue W. Kelly
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Kelly:

Thank you for commenting on the staff proposal regarding SECY-01-0137, "Enhancing Public Participation in NRC Meetings." The Commission is reviewing the paper and will arrive at a decision shortly. You have raised some important points for the Commission to consider as it evaluates the staff's proposal, and we will take your views into account as we deliberate.

We would like to comment on one point raised in your letter. We agree that information flow should occur both ways in order to successfully enhance communication between the NRC and the public. To facilitate this, telephone access has been and will continue to be available to meeting participants, subject to logistical capabilities described in the proposal. This will be stated clearly in the final policy.

Our intent is to improve the current process by enhancing public participation and establishing a fair and reasonable level of consistency in the handling of meetings across the agency. We will provide you a copy of the final policy when it becomes available. We appreciate your thoughtful views.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard A. Meserve