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Rules and Directives
Branch
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Mr. Michael T. Lesar, Chief
Rules and Directives Branch
Office of Administration
Mail Stop T6-D59
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

January 2, 2002

Dear Mr. Lesar:

Subject: Second Year of the Reactor Oversight Process

These comments are being submitted in response to the Federal Register Notice dated November 21, 2001 concerning the second year of the NRC's implementation of the new reactor oversight process.

In light of the September 11th terrorist attack and the subsequent closure of the U.S. NRC web site we could not perform a normal assessment of the reactor oversight process. Without access to performance indicator information and other useful reactor oversight data, we can not provide answers to the questions you outlined in the federal register notice.

In light of the lack of reactor oversight information available for review, we recommend that the NRC make available for public comment the results of the second year of implementation of the new reactor oversight process for public review and comment. Not only would the NRC's results of the second year of implementation of the new reactor oversight process provide an opportunity for external review, but it would provide an opportunity to compare the latest results against the results of the initial implementation of the new reactor oversight process that were published as SECY-01-0114 on June 25, 2001.

It would be particularly interesting to read about the NRC's assessment of whether the NRC Reactor Oversight Process for security was implemented as defined by program documents. It is unclear whether the NRC considers the current Reactor Oversight Process to be acceptable for ensuring security at nuclear power plants. Certainly, States have felt that additional security was necessary and have placed national


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guard troops, as well as State and local police, as supplements to the security at the nuclear power plants.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill Lipoti". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jill" being more prominent than the last name "Lipoti".

Jill Lipoti, Ph. D.
Assistant Director
Radiation Protection Programs

c: R. Bores, Ph. D. NRC Region 1
Kent Tosch, NJ DEP
Dennis Zannoni, NJ DEP