

**From:** Mindy Landau  
**To:** internet:EnviroCounsel@aol.com 5/9/02  
**Subject:** Public Information at the NRC

Thank you for writing to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission about our procedures and policies regarding information availability after the September 11 terrorist attacks. Shortly after the attacks, we removed all information from our web page. We slowly began re-posting information after it was reviewed by our technical staff to determine if any sensitivity existed. At the time, our only criteria was judgment and experience... we already have well-defined categories of information that we do not disclose to the public and so we narrowed these criteria to make them more stringent, at least temporarily. After we sought recommendations from our Commission (who normally make policy decisions about our actions), we loosened our criteria quite a bit. The Commission was concerned about limiting our "openness" policy that has been our trademark for many years. We have since proposed updated criteria to the Commission but it has not yet been approved. Once it is, we will likely make the criteria public. However, most of the information we would likely restrict would involve plant-specific vulnerabilities or construction schematics or details that might provide insight for a potential terrorist. We view public confidence and the public's right to know as a critical part of our agency mission, and I can assure you that will not be compromised. I hope this answers your question.

Mindy Landau  
Assistant for Communications  
USNRC  
Washington, DC  
(301)415-8703  
[msl@nrc.gov](mailto:msl@nrc.gov)

**CC:** Robert Jasinski

*Letter on  
web -  
Access to  
information*

*B-105*

**From:** <EnviroCounsel@aol.com>  
**To:** <pdr@nrc.gov>  
**Date:** 5/6/02 4:48PM  
**Subject:** (no subject)

Hi. My name is Joshua Fine.\* I am currently an Environmental LLM student at the George Washington University Law School.

I am writing a thesis about the how the September 11th terrorist attacks have affected the public's right to know.\* I called the PDR phone number and was told I could send my questions to this e-mail address.

\*I would like to know what, if any, public information materials, were removed from the Nuclear Regulatory Commissions's Web site since September 11th. Also, I was wondering what criteria the NRC is using to determine what should be removed from its Internet web site and when that criteria was developed.

If it is possible to provide answers to my questions, I would greatly appreciate it.

Thank you in advance.

Josh Fine

*Respond  
Thursday*