

November 4, 2005

The Honorable Tom Davis, Chair
Select Bipartisan Committee to Investigate the Preparation for
and Response to Hurricane Katrina
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am writing in response to the Committee's request for two copies of all information and documents that NRC provided to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs regarding the NRC's roles and responsibilities in preparing for and responding to Hurricane Katrina. I have enclosed the information requested in your letter of October 13, 2005.

The primary mission of the NRC, under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, is to regulate the civilian commercial, industrial, academic, and medical uses of nuclear materials in order to ensure adequate protection of the public health and safety, and promote the common defense and security. The NRC actively prepares for and responds to incidents, including hurricanes and other natural phenomena, that may impact licensed facilities or materials.

Regarding Hurricane Katrina, the NRC took appropriate steps within its purview and in accordance with established emergency plans and procedures to prepare for and respond to the hurricane. Within its statutory authority and responsibilities, the NRC cooperated extensively with other Federal, State, and local agencies to support timely and effective implementation of the National Response Plan.

If you have additional questions regarding these matters, please contact me.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Nils J. Diaz

Enclosure:
Letter to The Honorable Susan M. Collins,
with enclosures

cc: Representative Charlie Melancon