

December 9, 2005

Mr. David A. Lochbaum  
Union of Concerned Scientists  
1707 H Street NW., Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20006-3919

Dear Mr. Lochbaum:

Thank you for your letter dated November 17, 2005, on improving public confidence in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). You requested that the NRC issue an updated preliminary notification and/or an updated press release, prior to plant restart, to update the public on any issues following a plant shutdown that heightens regulatory interest.

Your recommendation has merit and we will revise the associated guidance documents in the future to specifically state that supplemental information should be disseminated to the public for shutdowns that warrant a reactive inspection and issuance of a preliminary notification. However, we do not consider a press release to be necessary to communicate this additional information.

Thank you again for your recommendation to improve public confidence in NRC activities.

Sincerely,

***/RA M Virgilio Acting for/***

Luis A. Reyes  
Executive Director  
for Operations

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