

March 1, 2013

The Honorable John Barrow
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Barrow:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter dated February 7, 2013, outlining concerns that you and your colleagues have regarding ongoing agency activities resulting from the Fukushima accident in Japan. Specifically, you addressed the NRC staff's recommendations pertaining to containment filtration for boiling water reactors with Mark I and Mark II containments.

My fellow Commissioners and I appreciate receiving your views. We are deliberating and giving this matter careful consideration. In accordance with our established processes and practices, the NRC staff provided the Commission with technical analyses, cost/benefit assessments, recommendations, and other supporting information in a paper to the Commission dated November 26, 2012. We asked staff to solicit input from a wide range of stakeholders and requested expert opinion from the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards in preparing to consider this issue. The information provided in the paper, along with other information gathered by the Commission, is being carefully considered during our deliberations.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Ms. Rebecca Schmidt, Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, at (301) 415-1776.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Allison M. Macfarlane

Identical letter sent to:

The Honorable John Barrow
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Bill Pascrell, Jr.
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Stanford Bishop, Jr.
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John D. Dingell, Jr.
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Ed Pastor
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Sheila Jackson-Lee
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Steny H. Hoyer
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The Honorable William L. Owens
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The Honorable James E. Clyburn
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The Honorable Michael F. Doyle
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The Honorable Joseph Crowley
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The Honorable Bennie Thompson
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Bobby L. Rush
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The Honorable Robert E. Andrews
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The Honorable Chaka Fattah
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The Honorable C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger
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The Honorable Gene Greene
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The Honorable Danny K. Davis
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Daniel Lipinski
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Terri A. Sewell
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The Honorable Daniel B. Maffei
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The Honorable Cedric L. Richmond
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The Honorable Robert A. Brady
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The Honorable Bill Foster
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The Honorable Mike McIntyre
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The Honorable Jim Matheson
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