

COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

January 23, 2000

Mr. Luis Reyes  
Regional Administrator  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region II  
Atlanta Federal Center  
62 Forsyth St. SW Suite 23T85  
Atlanta GA 30303

Dear Mr. Reyes,


As you are aware, the situation regarding the presence of depleted uranium and possible radiation contamination in the island of Vieques has become a concern, not only of the Health Department, but also of all the population of Puerto Rico, due to the hazards it may pose to the public health.

In the letter sent by Mrs. Shirley Ann Jackson (June 29<sup>th</sup>, 199) to the Legislature of the Virgin Islands it was stated that the NRC would conduct an independent inspection of the Navy's recovery activities and the corrective actions taken by said military corps. Nevertheless, we have had no further official knowledge of the results of these actions.

As the Secretary of Health of Puerto Rico my purpose with this letter is to urge from the NRC, as the Regulatory Agency that it is, the prompt intervention in this matter. We will greatly appreciate that you keep us informed of the results of any action you consider to take in this situation. You can rely in our unconditional support and cooperation.

Thanking you in advance!

Sincerely yours,



Carmen Feliciano de Melecio, MD  
Secretary of Health  
Commonwealth of Puerto Rico