

For immediate release
Contact: Scott Portzline 717-232-8863

April 22, 2010
Three Mile Island Alert

A Sensitive Department of Energy document is removed from governmental websites at the request of Three Mile Island Alert

(Harrisburg, PA) A threat to national security has been removed from US governmental websites thanks to the vigilance of Three Mile Island Alert's Scott Portzline. The document published by one of the National Laboratories provided details on how to crash an aircraft into a nuclear plant and cause a catastrophic release of radioactivity or a meltdown.

Although this report had been identified years ago as a potential threat to national security, the Department of Energy (DOE) added it to its downloadable database in June of 2008. It was also made available for sale from a US Department of Commerce website for \$40 dollars.

Portzline discovered the document's availability in March 2010 while performing his ongoing research on sabotage and terrorism of nuclear power plants. He sent a letter describing the problem to the Department of Homeland Security, the DOE, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and other governmental leaders requesting that it be removed from public availability without delay.

The Department of Energy reviewed the circumstances and removed the document from its web-portal known as the "Information Bridge." The Department of Commerce also removed the report from its "National Technical Information Service" website database after being alerted by the NRC. DOE then notified Portzline in a letter dated April 16th.

Portzline said, "I was pleasantly surprised that swift action was taken. In the past, it would take an embarrassing media expose' to move these bureaucracies into action. I'm not ignorant to the fact that more sensitive information is out there, but I don't want our government making it easy like this."

(The letters between the DOE and Portzline are attached. Scott Portzline has researched nuclear plant security issues for 26 years and has testified to numerous governmental agencies.)

Scott D. Portzline
3715 N. 3rd Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110
717-232-8863

Security Consultant to
Three Mile Island Alert

March 8, 2010

Michael C. Kane
U.S. Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration

Re: sensitive DOE nuclear report online

Dear Mr. Kane,

I am writing to advise you that a sensitive report on aircraft impacts at nuclear plants is downloadable from the Department of Energy's (DOE) web portal known as the Information Bridge (<http://www.osti.gov/bridge/>). The Argonne National Laboratory report titled Evaluation of Air Craft Crash Hazards Analyses for Nuclear Power Plants¹ has been withdrawn from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's public document retrieval systems (ADAMS – "NUREG/CR -2859"). The document was previously unavailable from DOE's website but for some unknown reason was added in June of 2008.

Consequently, anyone from anywhere in the world is now able to download this sensitive report. I used the search terms "aircraft nuclear plant" to find the report. This document imparts details which are far too revealing and could spawn attack plans which otherwise would not be evident.

I am requesting that this report be removed from the online database without delay or excuse. I am also requesting that the microfiche and paper versions of this document be redacted from public repositories; a step which the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) failed to take. Legislators and 9/11 commissioners have previously described the public availability of this report as "appalling."² I was able to view the report on microfiche at one of these repositories just last week.

Additionally, the report is being offered for sale for \$40.00 at the U.S. Department of Commerce's "National Technical Information Service" website (<http://www.ntis.gov/>) in microfiche form or for \$60.00 one can buy the paper printout.

¹ "Evaluation of Air Craft Crash Hazards Analyses for Nuclear Power Plants,"
OSTI ID: 7090435; Legacy ID: DE82021727

² "Nuclear plant info available to public," <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/15922717>

This ongoing problem with online databases is another example of the need for more meticulous control of documents known to cause national security concerns. In December 2009, the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) investigated another recent incident regarding the mishandling of sensitive information. GAO cited “the absence of clear interagency guidance, different procedures across the agencies governing the handling and marking of sensitive documents, poor decision making, and the lack of training and adequate security awareness.”³

This is the third time I’ve discovered sensitive documents or information online which should not be publicly available. Additionally, in 1993 the NY Times noted my testimony to the US Senate and the NRC on how publicly available paper reports and microfiche become a “how-to book” in the hands of a would-be saboteur.

Sincerely,

Scott D. Portzline

CC:

Michael C. Kane U.S. Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration 1000 Independence Ave., SW Washington, DC 20585	Commerce Secretary Gary Locke U.S. Department of Commerce 1401 Constitution Ave., NW Washington, DC 20230	Roy Zimmerman, Director Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission MS T-4D22A Washington, D.C. 20555
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission One White Flint North 11555 Rockville Pike Rockville, MD 20852-2738	Secretary Janet Napolitano U.S. Department of Homeland Security Washington, DC 20528	Jim LaFemina U.S. Department of State Deputy Director, Strategic Planning and Outreach, International Security and Nonproliferation 2201 C Street NW Washington, DC 20520
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Office of the Speaker H-232, US Capitol Washington, DC 20515	Congressman Ed Markey 2108 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	Gene Aloise U.S. General Accounting Office Director Natural Resources and Environment 441 G St., NW Washington, DC 20548
Senator Arlen Specter 228 Walnut Street Room 1104, Federal Building Harrisburg, PA 17101	Senator Robert P. Casey Jr. 22 S. Third Street, Suite 6A Harrisburg, PA 17101	Congressman Tim Holden 1721 North Front Street Harrisburg, PA 17102
James F. Powers, Jr. Pennsylvania Office of Homeland Security 2605 Interstate Drive, Suite 380 Harrisburg PA 17110	Mayor Robert G. Reid Borough of Middletown 60 West Emaus Street Middletown, PA 17057	Mayor Linda D. Thompson The City of Harrisburg Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. City Government Center 10 North Second Street, Suite 202 Harrisburg, PA 17101-1678

³ GAO 10-251“Managing Sensitive Information - Actions Needed to Prevent Unintended Public Disclosures of U.S. Nuclear Sites and Activities.” p.7 <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d10251.pdf>



Department of Energy
Office of Scientific and Technical Information
Post Office Box 62
1 Science.gov Way
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831

April 16, 2010

Mr. Scott D. Portzline
3715 N. Third Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Dear Mr. Portzline:

Thank you for your recent communication to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security regarding a document that was posted on a Department of Energy (DOE) web site as well as other publicly accessible outlets. This document has been removed from the DOE Information Bridge database. It is also our understanding that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission contacted the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Technical Information Service, and we confirmed that NTIS has removed the document from public access.

The Department of Energy is committed to ensuring that sensitive documents are not posted on our public-facing web products. With approximately one million documents in our holdings, these measures require extensive coordination across a number of DOE and other agency elements. We appreciate that you brought this document to our attention, and we are addressing internal processes for electronic release, original review, and any subsequent re-reviews.

Our files indicate that the document, published in 1982, was originally marked and disseminated as unclassified, non-sensitive by its originating agency. Based on its original and potential subsequent distribution, it remains possible that parts or all of the document could be accessible through other sources.

Again, we appreciate your concern and commitment to matters that enhance our national security interests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Walter L. Warnick".

Walter L. Warnick, PhD.

Director
Office of Scientific and Technical Information
Office of Science
U.S. Department of Energy


cc:

Erica De Vos, Director of the Executive Secretariat, U.S. Department of Energy
Diane S. Saunders, Senior Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Homeland Security



INFORMATION BRIDGE

Bibliographic Citation

Full Text	 5 Mb or - search, view and/or download individual pages									
DOI	10.2172/7090435									
Title	Evaluation of aircraft-crash-hazards analyses for nuclear power plants									
Creator/Author	Kot, C.A. ; Lin, H.C. ; van Erp, J.B. ; Eichler, T.V. ; Wiedermann, A.H.									
Publication Date	1982 Jun 01									
OSTI Identifier	OSTI ID: 7090435; Legacy ID: DE82021727									
Report Number(s)	NUREG/CR-2859; ANL-CT-81-32									
DOE Contract Number	W-31-109-ENG-38									
DOI	10.2172/7090435									
Other Number(s)	Other: ON: DE82021727									
Resource Type	Technical Report									
Research Org	Argonne National Lab., IL (USA)									
Subject	29 ENERGY PLANNING, POLICY AND ECONOMY; 22 GENERAL STUDIES OF NUCLEAR REACTORS; AIRCRAFT; ACCIDENTS; NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS; HAZARDS; LICENSING; RISK ASSESSMENT; SITE SELECTION; NUCLEAR FACILITIES; POWER PLANTS; THERMAL POWER PLANTS									
Description/Abstract	The state of knowledge concerning aircraft crash hazards to nuclear power plants is critically evaluated. This effort is part of a study to analyze the potential effects of offsite hazards upon the safety of nuclear power plants and to develop a technical basis for the assessment of siting approaches for such facilities. The evaluation includes the deterministic modeling of aircraft crash scenarios and threat environments, the estimation of the effects on and the response of the vital plant systems, and the probabilistic aspects of the crash problem, i.e., data bases and statistical methodologies. Also critically reviewed are past licensing experience and regulatory practice with respect to aircraft crash hazards. In general it is found that the data bases, methodologies and modeling approaches are adequate to estimate the threat and plant response. However, this knowledge is not always fully used in specific applications.									
Country of Publication	United States									
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Document Discussions	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>User Name:</td> <td><input type="text"/></td> <td>(for display)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Email Address:</td> <td><input type="text"/></td> <td>(Email address will NOT be displayed.)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Discussion Subject:</td> <td><input type="text"/></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	User Name:	<input type="text"/>	(for display)	Email Address:	<input type="text"/>	(Email address will NOT be displayed.)	Discussion Subject:	<input type="text"/>	
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Evaluation of Aircraft Crash Hazards Analyses for Nuclear Power Plants. - Technical memo.

Argonne National Lab., IL.

ProductType: Technical report

NTIS Order Number: NUREG/CR-2859

- \$40.00-Microfiche
- \$60.00-Print on Demand

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Media Count: N/A

Date: Jun 1982

Author: C. A. Kot H. C. Lin J. B. van Erp T. V. Eichler A. H. Wiedermann

The state of knowledge concerning aircraft crash hazards to nuclear power plants is critically evaluated. This effort is part of a study to analyze the potential effects of offsite hazards upon the safety of nuclear power plants and to develop a technical ...

Report Number: ANL-CT-81-32

Contract Number: N/A

Project Number: N/A

Grant Number: N/A

Task Number: N/A

NTIS announcement issue: 8301

"N/A" indicates no data is available for this field.

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