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17TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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MIDDLE EAST AND CENTRAL ASIA

VICE CHAIRMAN, DEMOCRATIC
TASK FORCE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3217

November 17, 2005

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The Honorable Michael Chertoff
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Mr. Secretary,

We write to express our serious concern regarding the delay in fulfilling the requirements of Section 805 of PL 108-293. This provision required the DHS to perform a security assessment of navigable waters adjacent to nuclear power plants in the United States and to submit a report to Congress within one year. More than a year has elapsed since this legislation was enacted and we still do not have this vital information.

It is our understanding that this report is written and is tied up in an Administration review and approval process. The analysis of this report is vital for Congress to make policy decisions about security and budget priorities. We already know that Al Qaeda has blueprints for U.S. nuclear power plans and plans for attacking these facilities. We cannot afford to delay in doing everything we can to secure them.

As federal officials, we are sworn to guarantee the safety of the American people. We urgently request that you expedite the final review of this report and submit it to Congress without further delay.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Eliot L. Engel


Gary L. Ackerman

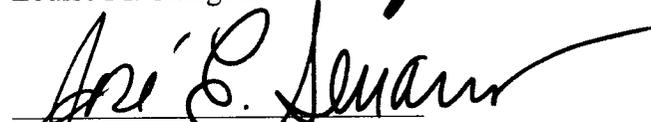

Charles B. Rangel

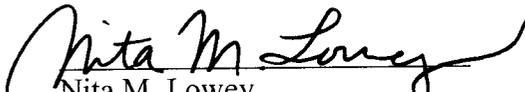

Edolphus Towns

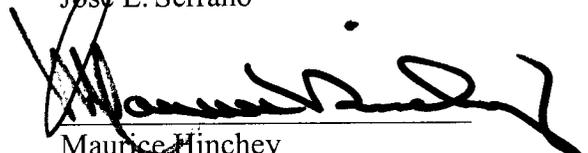

Major R. Owens

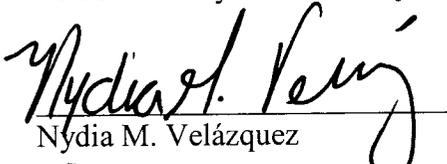

Louise M. Slaughter

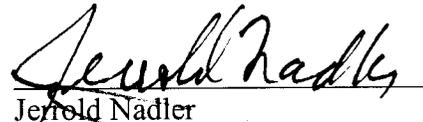

Michael R. McNulty

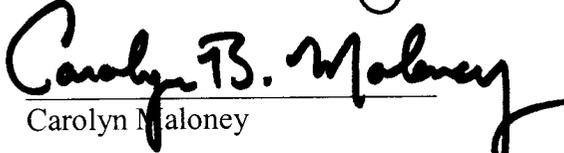

Jose E. Serrano

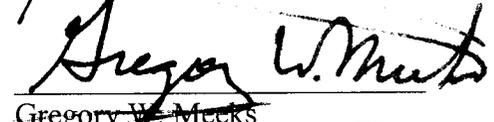

Nita M. Lowey


Maurice Hinchey

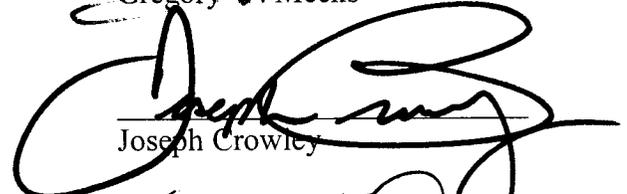

Nydia M. Velázquez


Jerrold Nadler


Carolyn B. Maloney


Gregory W. Meeks


Carolyn McCarthy


Joseph Crowley


Anthony D. Weiner


Steve J. Israel


Tim Bishop


Brian M. Higgins