

9/11

Public Discourse Project

June 16, 2005

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The Honorable Samuel W. Bodman
Secretary of Energy
Forrestal Building
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington DC 20585

Dear Secretary Bodman:

We write with respect to last year's final report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (the 9/11 Commission) and subsequent legislative action, including Public Law 108-458 (The Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004).

Specifically, we are interested in actions by the Department of Energy to implement the recommendations of the Commission.

The purpose of our inquiry is to assess the performance of Departments and agencies of the government – both through panel discussions and the issuance of a “report card” to the public on the Commission’s recommendations one year later – on steps taken to make the American people safer and more secure.

We would appreciate your comments specifically on steps taken this past year, as the Commission recommended in its report (p.381):

“Our report shows that al Qaeda has tried to acquire or make weapons of mass destruction for at least ten years. There is no doubt the United States would be a prime target. Preventing the proliferation of these weapons warrants a maximum effort – by strengthening counterproliferation efforts, expanding the Proliferation Security Initiative, and supporting the Cooperative Threat Reduction program.”

We appreciate very much your time and attention. We do not seek to duplicate the reporting requirements of PL 108-458; our purpose is to inform the American public about steps underway to protect them. We would appreciate your reply by August 15, 2005.

On behalf of the former Commissioners, we would also like to invite you to meet with us to discuss these topics, privately or publicly.

Should you or your office have any questions, please feel free to contact us directly or through the 9/11 Public Discourse Project.

With best regards,

Thomas H. Kean

Lee H. Hamilton

CC: Andrew H. Card, Jr.