Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

AUG 11 2000

Mr. John L. Gretencord
917 Pine Street
Ottawa, IL 61350

Re: OHA Case No. VBB-0041

Dear Mr. Gretencord:

This letter concerns the complaint of reprisal that you submitted to the Department of Energy under 10 C.F.R. Part 708. You have filed a petition for Secretarial review of the appeal decision issued to you on March 13, 2000.

The Part 708 regulations applicable to the petition provide that the Secretary will reverse or revise an appeal decision by the Director of the Office of Hearings and Appeals only under extraordinary circumstances. 10 C.F.R. § 708.35(d). After fully evaluating all the issues that you raised in your filing dated April 27, 2000, I have determined that you have not shown that extraordinary circumstances warranting Secretarial review exist in this case. No modification to the appeal decision by the OHA Director is therefore warranted. Accordingly, the petition for Secretarial review is hereby dismissed, and the appeal decision I issued to you on March 13, 2000, constitutes the final agency decision on your complaint.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please call Virginia Lipton at telephone number (202) 426-1436.

Sincerely,

George B. Breznay
Director
Office of Hearings and Appeals

cc: James Grasso, Esq.
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