

**U.S. Chemical Safety and  
Hazard Investigation Board**

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Hon. Rafael Moure-Eraso  
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Board Member

Hon. Mark Griffon  
Board Member

Hon. William B. Wark  
Board Member

Hon. William E. Wright  
Board Member



The Honorable Dannel Malloy  
Office of the Governor  
210 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

SEP 22 2011

Dear Governor Malloy:

As you know, the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) conducted an investigation of the February 7, 2010 natural gas explosion at the Kleen Energy power generation facility in Middletown, Connecticut, where workers were cleaning fuel gas piping using a "gas blow", a procedure that forced natural gas through the piping at a high volume and pressure to remove debris. The investigation resulted in two recommendations to the Governor and Legislature of the State of Connecticut. I am writing today with regard to Recommendation no. 2010-01-I-CT-UR16, which reads as follows:

*Enact legislation applicable to power plants in the state that prohibits the use of flammable gas that is released to the atmosphere to clean fuel gas piping.*

On September 8, 2011, the Board voted to designate Recommendation no. 2010-01-I-CT-UR16 with the status **Closed- Acceptable Action**. This decision was based on the July 8, 2011 enactment of Public Act 11-101 ("An Act Adopting Certain Recommendations of the Thomas Commission"). The Board appreciates that Connecticut has taken prompt and decisive action to safeguard the health and safety of its citizenry, and we hope that Connecticut's leadership will set the stage for a permanent prohibition of the use of flammable gas to clean piping. Please have your staff contact Ms. Christina Morgan, Recommendations Specialist, at 202-261-7642 or [christina.morgan@csb.gov](mailto:christina.morgan@csb.gov) if you have questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rafael Moure-Eraso".

Rafael Moure-Eraso, PhD, CIH  
Chairperson

CC: Senator John Fonfara, Deputy Majority Leader  
Representative Matthew Lesser  
Christina Morgan, Recommendations Specialist, CSB  
Donald Holmstrom, Investigation Supervisor, CSB  
Manuel R. Gomez, Director of Recommendations, CSB