

May 31, 1990

Mr. James M. Strock,  
Assistant Administrator for Enforcement,  
Environmental Protection Agency,  
Room 1037 West Tower,  
401 M Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Mr. Strock,

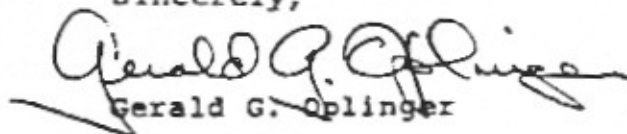
I understand that Mr. Richard Barlow is being considered for a position with your agency.

I have known Mr. Barlow for more than five years, both as a professional colleague and as a friend. For most of this period, I was the Director of the Department of Defense's Office of Non-Proliferation Policy and SECDEFREP for non-proliferation affairs. I had frequent contact with Mr. Barlow while he was an intelligence analyst at the CIA working on a number of nuclear issues of common concern. I was fortunate to be able to arrange for him to join my staff at DoD several months before my retirement in April 1989.

Mr. Barlow's ability to master the complex technical, political, and legal aspects of the issues for which he had intelligence responsibility enabled him to provide superb support to the interagency community. He is bright, articulate, and energetic. In a policy area often marked by controversy, his objectivity and competence won him widespread respect. He made a particularly notable contribution to national security interests in the area of nuclear export controls, where he demonstrated uncommon expertise, courage and persistence.

I warmly recommend Mr. Barlow for a position with your agency.

Sincerely,

  
Gerald G. Oplinger