

December 19, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to attend the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) 24th Annual Regulatory Information Conference (RIC) to be held March 13-15, 2012, at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Rockville, Maryland.

Proudly sponsored by the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation and Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, the RIC brings together more than 3,000 participants from over 34 countries and offers an opportunity for government, industry, international agencies and other interested stakeholders and members of the public to meet and discuss safety and security initiatives and developments in the regulatory arena.

The RIC offers an inviting atmosphere for participants to learn valuable information about emerging issues in regulation of nuclear power plants and nuclear safety research and presents a dynamic and open forum where participants can exchange ideas and experiences. The RIC also gives participants an opportunity to network with leaders in nuclear safety and regulation.

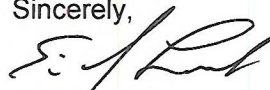
We have a full and comprehensive program that promises to provide conference attendees with a wealth of relevant information. The agenda features remarks by Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko and includes plenary sessions with Commissioners Kristine L. Svinicki, George Apostolakis, William D. Magwood, and William C. Ostendorff. Bill Borchardt, NRC's Executive Director for Operations will present during the opening session, and Eric Leeds, Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation will moderate a special plenary session with the Deputy Executive Director for Reactor and Preparedness Programs and industry.

The technical program will address significant domestic and international issues associated with operating reactors, new and advanced reactors, fuel cycle facilities, nuclear security, safety research, and safety culture policies. There will also be several sessions addressing topics associated with the Fukushima Dai-ichi accident and NRC's response to lessons learned such as seismic and station blackout events, flooding and ventilation issues, emergency preparedness and incident response, as well as research and regulation of spent fuel storage, handling, and safe disposition from nuclear power reactors. The agenda also offers a broad variety of technical poster and tabletop presentations. Additionally, participants can sign-up for a tour of the NRC Incident Response Center.

Please make plans to attend this event and benefit from the opportunity to interact with colleagues and to gain and share valuable insights, opinions and information on nuclear regulatory activities. As always, your participation plays an important role in making the RIC a success. We encourage you to participate in the question and answer portion of the sessions and to complete the evaluation forms distributed during the conference. We want your feedback and will use it to continually improve the conference in the future.

It is our pleasure to invite you to attend the 2012 RIC, and we look forward to seeing you in March.

Sincerely,



Eric J. Leeds, Director,
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation



Brian W. Sheron, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research