

DRAFT CONGRESSIONAL LETTER

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission is amending its Fitness-for-Duty Rule [10 CFR Part 26, which was published in the Federal Register on June 7, 1989 (54 FR 24468)].

NRC review of experience gained since implementation of the current rule on January 3, 1990, indicated that, although the rule is sound and provides a means for deterrence and detection of substance abuse, some modifications will enhance the effectiveness of licensees' fitness-for-duty programs and reduce unnecessary burdens, while assuring continued protection of public health and safety. The amendments take into account experience in implementing the rule, developments in this area, and actions by other government agencies related to this matter.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the final rule as approved by the Commission for publication in the Federal Register.

Sincerely,

Dennis K. Rathbun, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

List of Addressees for Congressional Letter dated _____:

The Honorable James M. Inhofe, Chairman
Subcommittee on Clean Air, Wetlands, Private
Property and Nuclear Safety
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

cc: Senator Bob Graham

The Honorable Joe Barton, Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Power
Committee on Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

cc: Representative Rick Boucher