October 2, 2002

The Honorable Rod Paige Secretary of Education Washington, D.C. 20202-0100

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am pleased to submit the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Fiscal Year 2003 Annual Federal Plan of Executive Agency Actions to Assist Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Consistent with Executive Order 13256, the NRC has established HBCU Program goals for FY 2003 based on a percentage of the NRC budget for grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements available for institutions of higher education. The NRC's program is conducted under a cooperative agreement with Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education. The program is designed to enable students and faculty members from HBCUs to conduct research at designated Federal facilities in several areas of science and engineering.

Should you have questions regarding the NRC's HBCU Program, please contact Mrs. Irene Little, Director, Office of Small Business and Civil Rights, at (301) 415-7380.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard A. Meserve

Enclosure: As stated