July 29, 2005

Dr. Ralph J. Cicerone, President
National Academy of Sciences
500 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Dr. Cicerone:

I am writing on behalf of my colleagues on the Commission to congratulate you as you assume your new responsibilities as President of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS). The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the NAS have maintained a productive working relationship over the years, and the NRC has appreciated the important advice that NAS has provided on several significant policy issues in recent years. The Commission values these interactions and looks forward to continued excellent working relationships with the NAS under your leadership.

Although I recognize that you may have a number of pressing concerns during these early months of your tenure as President, I hope that at some point in time when convenient, we could meet to discuss areas of mutual interest.

Again, our congratulations on your assuming the duties of your new office and I look forward to our continuing interactions with the Academy.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Nils J. Diaz