

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

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AUTHOR: GOV Bil Richardson
AFFILIATION: NM-GOV
ADDRESSEE: Dale Klein
SUBJECT: Supports the nomination of Dr. Gail H. Marcus as NRC commissioner

ACTION: Information
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State of New Mexico
Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

June 30, 2007

Dr. Dale E. Klein, Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Dr. Klein:

It is my understanding that Dr. Gail H. Marcus has been mentioned as a potential candidate for a position as Commissioner on the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). As Governor of New Mexico, and former Secretary of Energy, I strongly endorse her candidacy. Based on my direct knowledge of her abilities and accomplishments, I believe she is especially qualified for this position. Therefore, I recommend that you consider her for the next available position as Commissioner on the U.S. NRC.

In 1999, while I was U.S. Secretary of Energy, Gail joined the Department of Energy (DOE) as the Principal Deputy Director of the Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology. This was the most senior position in that office, and in that capacity, she contributed directly and significantly to the development of programs in that office. Her work helped enable the Department, as well as the industry, to address the future needs and possibilities for nuclear power. In my interactions with her, I was always impressed by the breadth and depth of her technical knowledge, her fairness and impartiality, and her ability to work constructively by reconciling disparate interests and viewpoints.

Since her time with the DOE, I have continued to follow her career with interest. I am confident that she is one of few people who can bring to the NRC a strong technical background in nuclear technology, in addition to a working knowledge of both the Executive and Legislative branches of the U.S. Government. Moreover, she has experience in the international sector as the Deputy Director-General of the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA).

I believe she is an outstanding candidate for a position on the NRC and I ask you to give her every allowable consideration under your rules and guidelines for appointing Commissioners.

If there is any way I can be helpful to you in this process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Richardson".

Bill Richardson
Governor of New Mexico

BR/zw

Cc: U.S. Senator Herry Reid
U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman
U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer
U.S. Senator Hillary Clinton