

November 20, 2007

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Chairman, Subcommittee on Clean Air
and Nuclear Safety
Committee on Environment and
Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I was pleased to participate in the roundtable discussion hosted by you and Senator George V. Voinovich on America's Nuclear Renaissance and the Associated Human Capital Challenges and Opportunities on November 7, 2007, and to talk about the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) efforts to recruit quality people. As you know, the nuclear industry is demonstrating very strong interest in the construction of new nuclear power plants. As a result, approximately 19 Combined Operating License applications, representing at least 30 new nuclear power reactors, are projected to be submitted to the NRC over the next two years. To date, the NRC has been successful in hiring new staff to address its expanding workload. Although the NRC hired approximately 200 new staff in FY 2007, NRC's aging workforce and projected losses due to retirement will present continuing challenges to the agency's efforts to maintain the high quality workforce needed to perform our regulatory activities. For example, next year 17 percent of the NRC's workforce will be retirement eligible, and by 2012, the number rises to 32 percent.

The Commission recognizes that the market for the critical skills that are needed, particularly in engineering and scientific areas, is very competitive. Accordingly, the NRC must continue to enhance its programs to attract and retain high quality employees. Enclosed are some recruiting materials the NRC uses to describe the NRC's mission, career opportunities and people.

I want to thank you for your continued support for NRC's recruiting efforts. The NRC is committed to hire and retain the skilled workforce needed to accomplish its mission. I am confident that with the continued partnership of Congress, the NRC will succeed.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Dale E. Klein

Enclosures:

1. Brochure - Nuclear Safety Professional Development Program
2. Brochure - The Honor Law Graduate Program
3. Flash Drive – Make Our Mission Yours
4. Photos – NRC Recruiting Booth

cc: Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator James M. Inhofe

November 20, 2007

The Honorable George V. Voinovich
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Clean Air
and Nuclear Safety
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Voinovich:

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The Honorable Pete V. Domenici
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Domenici:

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The Honorable Johnny Isakson
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Isakson:

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