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**AUTHOR:** Dr. Robert Rosner

**AFFILIATION:** ANL

**ADDRESSEE:** CHRM Dale Klein

**SUBJECT:** Concerns Chairman Klein's visit to Argonne National Laboratory - December 2007

**ACTION:** Appropriate

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**Dr. Robert Rosner**  
Director

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January 2, 2008

Dr. Dale Klein, Chairman  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1154 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Dr. Klein:

**Subject: Chairman Klein Visit to Argonne National Laboratory – December 2007**

The purpose of this letter is to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for your recent visit to Argonne National Laboratory. As you know, Argonne has contributed significantly to the research conducted by the NRC in the areas of light water reactor materials behavior, steam generator integrity, loss of coolant accident behavior of high-burnup fuels, behavior of fuel in dry storage casks, severe accident experimentation, and assessment of non-destructive examination techniques, to name just a few areas.

Argonne has a rich history in nuclear reactor development starting with the Chicago Pile 1 Reactor through and including the Integral Fast Reactor and the Portable Reactor Innovative Secure Module (PRISM) concepts. We have made key contributions to these reactors and their fuel cycles including fuel development, reactor core design, component development and testing, spent fuel separations and recycle, and development and qualification of computer codes for design and safety analysis. Argonne continues to build on these research and development contributions through our involvement in the Department of Energy's Global Nuclear Energy Partnership, Advanced Fuel Cycle Initiative, and Generation IV programs, where we provide technical leadership for fast reactor technology, separations technology, waste form technology, and advanced modeling and simulation. In addition, we make key contributions in the systems analysis and regulatory compliance components of GNEP/AFCI. Argonne provides direct support to NRC personnel through our technical training seminars on fast reactor technology and has established a Sharepoint website where information is disseminated and shared with personnel at other national laboratories, universities, the Department of Energy, and the NRC.

Most recently, we have started to organize and prepare Argonne personnel for supporting the NRC in its review of new reactor license applications. In January, with support from NRC staff, we will provide an orientation for employees we expect to contribute to this work. As part of this training, we will include instruction in our established procedures for dealing with potential conflict of interest (COI) and apparent COI issues. Following your suggestion, we plan to require annual refresher training in these COI procedures.

Once more, thank you for your visit to Argonne. We are excited about the renaissance of nuclear energy in this country and continuing our technical support of the NRC and its programs.

If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Rosner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" and last name "Rosner" clearly distinguishable.

Robert Rosner  
Director, Argonne National Laboratory  
President, UChicago Argonne, LLC  
William E. Wrather Distinguished Service Professor,  
The University of Chicago

Dr. Mark T. Peters, Building 208  
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