

September 17, 2007

The Honorable Barack Obama
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Obama:

In February of this year, the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) posted a Federal funding opportunity announcement entitled "U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Nuclear Education Grant Program." The purpose of this initiative is to support courses, studies, training, curricula, and disciplines pertaining to nuclear safety, nuclear security, or nuclear environmental protection. Seventy-eight applications were submitted by higher education institutions, of which twenty-six were recommended by the Office of Human Resources for grant awards.

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois received grant funding by the NRC. The University of Illinois was awarded \$177,348 for "Security and ALARA at Nuclear Power Plant: Education and Training Using Virtual Reality and 3D Gaming Technology."

If you or your staff should have any questions regarding this grant, please contact me or Sara Sahm of my staff at 301-415-1776.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

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