September 11, 2008

Mr. Harold L. Thornberry, Vice President for Nuclear Construction (US)
The Shaw Group Inc.
128 South Tryon Street
Charlotte, NC 28202

Dear Mr. Thornberry:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is pleased that you can participate in a Commission meeting on new reactor construction issues, Wednesday, October 22, 2008. The meeting will focus on industry's readiness and capability to support new reactor construction. It will be held in the Commissioners' Conference Room on the first floor of the NRC's headquarters building at One White Flint North, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The meeting will have two parts. In the morning from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., a panel of external stakeholders will present views on readiness to support new reactor construction including workforce, training, quality control, and supply chain. In the afternoon from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., the NRC staff will present an update on its new reactor construction inspection programs. The Commission is interested in hearing your views and plans on these issues and any lessons learned from your experience. I am enclosing a copy of the draft meeting agenda for your information (enclosure 1).

To assist the Commission in preparing for the meeting, please send a copy of any written material to Ms. Michelle Schroll in the Office of the Secretary, by October 15, 2008, so that it can be distributed to the Commission for review in advance of the meeting. Enclosed are guidelines for viewgraphs, if you choose to use them (enclosure 2). If you intend to use viewgraphs, please notify Ms. Schroll as soon as possible. Paper or electronic presentation formats, such as PowerPoint, are acceptable. You may also fax material to (301) 415-1672. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Schroll at 301-415-1662.

This Commission meeting will be webcast live at the Web address: **www.nrc.gov.** If you use PowerPoint or other electronic presentation format, we would appreciate receiving your materials in electronic form so your viewgraphs can be posted on the NRC website prior to the meeting. Please e-mail them to **michelle.schroll@nrc.gov** and **sandy.joosten@nrc.gov.**

Your presentation at the Commission meeting should be based on the assumption that Commissioners are familiar with the content of your written material. Please plan your oral presentation **for 10 minutes or less**, discussing the important points on which you wish to focus the Commission's attention.

The NRC Headquarters office is located opposite the White Flint Metro Station on Rockville Pike and Marinelli Drive, Rockville, Maryland. The White Flint Metro Station is on the Red Line of the Washington area subway system. The trip from Metro Center takes about 45 minutes. Reserved visitor parking for Commission guests is also available. If you wish to use reserved parking, please notify Ms. Schroll in advance. If reserved parking has been arranged, please check-in with the security staff at the entrance to the NRC campus on Marinelli Drive when you arrive. A Security Guard will call for an escort. Please note that visitors will be screened

through metal detectors, will have their packages x-rayed, and will be required to present a picture identification card prior to signing in at the registration desk.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Annette L. Vietti-Cook
Secretary of the Commission

Enclosures:
1. Draft Agenda
2. Briefing Visuals Guidance