

January 28, 2009

The Honorable Bobby N. Bright
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bright:

I am writing to congratulate you on your election to the United States House of Representatives. It will be an honor to work with you on the important issues facing this country in the coming years.

As you may know, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is an independent agency established by the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 to regulate civilian nuclear power and use of nuclear materials. Our mission is to protect the public health and safety and the environment, and to maintain the common defense and security. In carrying out that mission in the 21st century, we face several important challenges. The agency has received a total of 17 combined license applications for 26 new nuclear power plants across the country and expects to receive an additional 3 applications for another 5 nuclear power plants in 2009. As a result, NRC's challenges will include the efficient management of these applications for new commercial nuclear plants while continuing to ensure the safe operation of existing plants. We must also look ahead and prepare for the development of new reactor designs and fuel cycle concepts. Additionally, NRC must maintain its regulation of nuclear materials to ensure the safety in uses for medical and industrial purposes. Most importantly, we must continue to develop the human resources that the NRC will need to have to ensure continued public safety and environmental quality.

The NRC has established a framework of regulatory stability to both keep current nuclear plants safe and secure as well as meet these emerging challenges. However, we continually assess and strive to improve our efforts as needed.

I would welcome the opportunity to brief you or your staff about the NRC. If this would be helpful, please contact Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, at 301-415-1776 or Rebecca.Schmidt@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Dale E. Klein

Identical letter sent to:

The Honorable Bobby N. Bright
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Parker Griffith
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom McClintock
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Duncan D. Hunter
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jared Polis
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Coffman
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank M. Kratovil, Jr.
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Mark Schauer
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Gary Peters
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Erik Paulsen
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Gregg Harper
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Blaine Luetkemeyer
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Steve Driehaus
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Steve Austria
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable John A. Boccieri
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The Honorable Kurt Schrader
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Glenn Thompson
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Jim Himes
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Alan Grayson
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Bill Posey
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The Honorable Tom Rooney
United States House of Representatives
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The Honorable Walt Minnick
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The Honorable Aaron Schock
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The Honorable Brett Guthrie
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The Honorable Joseph Cao
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The Honorable John Fleming
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The Honorable Bill Cassidy
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The Honorable John Adler
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The Honorable Leonard Lance
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The Honorable Martin T. Heinrich
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The Honorable Harry Teague
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The Honorable Ben Ray Lujan
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The Honorable Michael E. McMahon
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The Honorable Paul D. Tonko
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The Honorable Dan Maffei
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The Honorable Pedro Pierluisi
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The Honorable Phil Roe
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The Honorable Tom Perriello
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The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly
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The Honorable Larry Kissell
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