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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

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April 15, 2005

The Honorable Nils Diaz Chairman Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Dr. Diaz,

On behalf of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, I would like to invite you to testify at the Committee's hearing on April 26th, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. in SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

Testimony shall address the Nuclear Regulatory Commissions (NRC) progress on reviewing the three existing Early Site Permits (ESP) by the NRC. Additionally, the preparation work at the NRC to potentially receive a combined construction and operating license from industry as a result of the current joint government-industry cost sharing partnership administered by the Department of Energy in the Nuclear Power 2010 program. Specifically, does the NRC have the resources and technical expertise at its disposal to carry out these various tasks.

In order to maximize the time available for Members to ask questions, please limit the oral summation of your written testimony to five minutes. Written testimony will be included in full in the . Committee's printed hearing record.

Please provide the Committee with 50 copies of your testimony 24 hours in advance of the hearing. Because of security concerns, the following guidelines for delivery of time-sensitive letters and packages have been established by the United States Senate: (1) Executive Branch couriers with appropriate identification may deliver packages directly to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Room SD-364, Washington, D. C. (2) All independent and local couriers must deliver packages to the Congressional Acceptance Trailer located at 160 D Street, N.E., Washington, D. C. to be tested for possible contaminants. The Congressional Acceptance Trailer should be notified in advance by phone (202-224-5600) or via email <u>congressional acceptancesite@saa.senate.gov</u> prior to delivery. **Testimony must be received at the Trailer by 10:00 a.m. the day before the hearing in order for it to go through the testing process and be delivered to the Committee in time for the hearing. In addition, please send an electronic copy of your testimony via email at least 48 hours before the hearing to <u>david_marks@energy.senate.gov</u>. The Committee intends to post your testimony on its website, http://energy.senate.gov, in order to make it widely available to the public.**

Should you have any questions, please contact Clint Williamson (202) 224-7556 or David Marks (202) 224-4756 of the Committee staff.