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**AUTHOR:** 

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**AFFILIATION:** 

**ACUS** 

ADDRESSEE:

Gregory Jaczko

**SUBJECT:** 

Renewal of the Council of Independent Regulatory Agencies

**ACTION:** 

Signature of Chairman

**DISTRIBUTION:** 

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LETTER DATE:

06/30/2010

**ACKNOWLEDGED** 

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## ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Office of the Chairman

June 30, 2010

Gregory Jaczko, Commission Chair Nuclear Regulatory Commission 11545 Rockville Pk. Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Commission Chair Jaczko,

As you may know, I was recently sworn in as Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States and am in the process of reviving the agency after a 15-year hiatus. The President is expected to appoint the 10 member Council soon and we can then establish the 90-person membership, which will include a representative from each independent regulatory board and commission. We hope to be up and running by September and hold our first plenary session by December. You can learn more about the Conference at our temporary website acus.gov.

One of the creative ideas of my predecessor Loren Smith (now a senior judge at the Court of Claims) was to establish, in 1982, the Council of Independent Regulatory Agencies, consisting of the chairs of the then 14 major independent regulatory agencies. This informal group operated effectively until our termination in 1995. I would like to revive it. I foresee a monthly meeting at one of our offices, perhaps over lunch, during which we discuss issues of mutual interest.

Topics are easy to imagine: to name but two, potential revisions to the Sunshine Act (a project ACUS had on its agenda when we ended); and, of course, the implications of the <u>Free Enterprise Fund</u> case recently decided by the Supreme Court. There are undoubtedly many other ideas you could suggest; indeed that is the point, to open dialogue rather than prescribe agendas.

I hope this renewal of the Council idea intrigues you and that you will join with us. Please let me know of your interest and connect us to those on your staff who can arrange schedules.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

Paul R. Verkuil

Chairman, ACUS

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