

August 22, 2012

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
and Water Development
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the Commission, I am pleased to submit the enclosed U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) report addressing advanced reactor licensing, as required by the House Committee Report on the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2012, of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012 (P.L. 112-74).

This staff report addresses the NRC's overall strategy for, and approach to, preparing for the licensing of advanced reactors. The report addresses licensing applications anticipated over the next two decades, as well as potential licensing activity beyond that time. The report focuses on the licensing of nuclear reactor facilities for commercial use and illustrates regulatory challenges that may occur if various advanced reactor initiatives evolve into licensing applications.

The NRC will continue to effectively and efficiently plan for the anticipated advanced reactor licensing workload, consistent with its mission and goals, and with no compromise to the continued safety of the operating reactor fleet.

Should you have any questions, please contact me or Ms. Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs at email: Rebecca.Schmidt@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Allison M. Macfarlane

Enclosure:
Report to Congress on Advanced
Reactor Licensing

cc: Representative Peter J. Visclosky