The Honorable Barbara Boxer Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Works United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Chairman:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is amending its regulations for the certifications and approvals of nuclear power plants. This final rule will certify the Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor (ESBWR) standard plant design. This action is necessary so that applicants or licensees intending to construct and operate an ESBWR design may do so by referencing this design certification rule (DCR). The applicant for certification of the ESBWR design is GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH). The final rule will be published in the *Federal Register* soon and will become effective 30 days after publication. For more information, see the enclosed final rule.

Please feel free to contact me at (301) 415-1776 if you have questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Eugene Dacus, Director Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure: Federal Register notice

cc: Senator David Vitter

The Honorable Barbara Boxer Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Works United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

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Identical Letters sent to:

The Honorable Fred Upton with cc to Representative Henry A. Waxman The Honorable Ed Whitfield with cc to Representative Bobby L. Rush The Honorable John Shimkus with cc to Representative Paul Tonko The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse cc to Senator Jeff Sessions

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The Honorable Fred Upton Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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Enclosure: Federal Register notice

cc: Representative Henry A. Waxman

The Honorable Ed Whitfield Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy and Power Committee on Energy and Commerce United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

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Eugene Dacus, Director Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure: Federal Register notice

cc: Representative Bobby L. Rush

The Honorable John Shimkus
Chairman, Subcommittee on Environment
and the Economy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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Eugene Dacus, Director Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure: Federal Register notice

cc: Representative Paul Tonko

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse Chairman, Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety Committee on Environment and Public Works United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

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