

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION W. SHINGTON, D.C. 20555

May 29, 1981

The Honorable Mark Hatfield, Chairman Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development Committee on Appropriations United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As a result of recent Congressional actions in regard to the FY 1981 Supplemental Appropriation and due to our ongoing efforts to get back on schedule in issuing licenses, we are requesting authority to reprogram certain FY 1981 funding availability.

No funds have been included in the FY 1981 Supplemental Appropriations Bill (H.R. 3512) for NRC for the October 1, 1980 pay raise. We estimate that an additional \$2,750,000 will be needed to fund this pay raise. You will note that this amount is \$1,750,000 less than our previous request of \$4,500,000. This reduction is due primarily to the hiring freeze lasting longer than anticipated.

An additional \$3,990,000 is needed in FY 1981 for our "Licensing Recovery Plan" to support the construction permit licensing and operating reactor ficensing schedules reported to the House Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development on April 30, 1981, and to maintain the pace of other Nuclear Reactor Regulation programs through technical assistance while releasing on-board NRR staff to work on casework recovery efforts. In addition, \$1,130,000 is needed to expedite implementation of NRC's revised reactor operator licensing and requalification procedures. It should be noted that a major source of the funds for the licensing recovery plan and reactor operator licensing is funds appropriated for the nuclear data link. Sufficient FY 1981 funds (\$800,000) will remain, however, to initiate our NDL prototype program. We currently estimate that this program will cost a total of \$1,000,000.

The details of these reprogramming actions are included in the enclosure.

In order to implement these high priority efforts, we would appreciate your early consideration of these proposed reprogrammings.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Hendrie

Chairman

Enclosure: As Stated

cc: Sen. J. Bennett Johnston

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