

PDR



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

November 18, 1993

CHAIRMAN

James C. Linville
421 East Second Street
Moorestown, New Jersey 08057

Dear Mr. Linville:

I want to express my personal appreciation for the time and energy you have devoted to the development and implementation of a training program tailored to meet the needs of regulatory inspectors from Bulgaria, Hungary, Czech Republic, and the Slovak Republic. You and your colleagues have developed a comprehensive and well-balanced program that helped familiarize Central and East European chief inspectors and resident inspectors with key aspects of NRC inspection methodology and procedures. Such training is an important step in bringing safety improvements down to the plant level and has contributed substantially to the success of NRC's Central and East European (CEE) assistance program.

In June and again in October, I met with the program participants as they completed their courses. Every participant that I had the opportunity to talk to expressed positive comments concerning the quality and usefulness of the training program and your unfailing enthusiasm and professional thoroughness. I hope the training they received will continue to inspire them to incorporate lessons learned into their own national inspection programs. Moreover, your effort in getting inspectors from different countries used to the idea of working with each other will have a major impact on strengthening the nuclear regulatory regimes in their own countries and on forging closer cooperative ties between their respective inspectorates.

Such regional cooperation on nuclear safety is an important NRC goal. At this September's IAEA General Conference, the EDO and I met with nearly all the chief nuclear regulators of the FSU and CEE countries. We encouraged them to strengthen consultation and coordination among regulators in countries operating VVER reactors. I was pleased to see that they agreed to reconvene the earlier council of VVER regulators. A working meeting has already been scheduled in December in Sofia, Bulgaria.

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Again, I appreciate your efforts to enhance international nuclear safety and hope that you will be willing to participate further in support of NRC's international activities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ivan Selin', written in a cursive style.

Ivan Selin