

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

January 24, 1983

The Honorable Edward J. Markey, Chairman Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Your letter of January 10, 1983 has been referred to my office for response. In your letter you asked why a subcommittee of the NRC's Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) proposed to hold a technical meeting to discuss the Skagit/Hanford Nuclear Power Project, Units 1 and 2, in the State of Washington. At this time, the Skagit application is pending before the NRC and, under sections 29 and 182b of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, the ACRS is required to perform an independent review of its technical merits. Unless that application is withdrawn or the applicant indicates no review is desired, the ACRS and the NRC staff are required by statute to review this project.

Sincerely,

Martin G. Malsch Acting General Counsel