

May 23, 1994

The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Kennedy:

Shortly before the Congress recessed last November, the Senate passed H.R. 3355, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1993. Of particular interest to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is title XLV of the bill, the Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act, which would restrict the manufacture, transfer, and possession of semiautomatic assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices. On May 5, 1994, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4296, which is similar in substance to title XLV of H.R. 3355. These bills will soon be before a Conference Committee on which I understand you will serve as a Conferee.

As currently written, H.R. 4296 and title XLV of H.R. 3355 could affect adversely the security of NRC-licensed commercial nuclear power plants and facilities possessing a formula quantity of strategic special nuclear material (SSNM). Both types of facilities employ security personnel armed with weapons such as those that would be subject to the restrictions relating to semiautomatic assault weapons to safeguard the facility. They also use large capacity ammunition feeding devices.

Sections 4505 and 4507 of H.R. 3355 and sections 2 and 4 of H.R. 4296 would exempt departments and agencies of the United States from the restrictions described above. However, as drafted, these sections would cover guards only at Government-owned facilities, such as facilities that are owned by the Department of Energy. We believe the same exemption should apply to NRC-licensed facilities.

Therefore, if bans of assault weapons and large capacity feeding devices are included in the final legislation, we recommend that

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The exemptions for law enforcement officers authorized by U.S. departments or agencies to purchase firearms or large capacity ammunition feeding devices for official use, contained in H.R. 4296, will not alleviate the problem. Most NRC-licensed sites do not have guards who are deputized as law enforcement officers.

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May 23, 1994

The Honorable Howard M. Metzenbaum United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Metzenbaum:

Shortly before the Congress recessed last November, the Senate passed H.R. 3355, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1993. Of particular interest to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is title XLV of the bill, the Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act, which would restrict the manufacture, transfer, and possession of semiautomatic assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices. On May 5, 1994, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4296, which is similar in substance to title XLV of H.R. 3355. These bills will soon be before a Conference Committee on which I understand you will serve as a Conferee.

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May 23, 1994

The Honorable Dennis DeConcini United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator DeConcini:

Shortly before the Congress recessed last November, the Senate passed H.R. 3355, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1993. Of particular interest to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is title XLV of the bill, the Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act, which would restrict the manufacture, transfer, and possession of semiautomatic assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices. On May 5, 1994, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4296, which is similar in substance to title XLV of H.R. 3355. These bills will soon be before a Conference Committee on which I understand you will serve as a Conferee.

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May 23, 1994

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

Shortly before the Congress recessed last November, the Senate passed H.R. 3355, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1993. Of particular interest to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is title XLV of the bill, the Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act, which would restrict the manufacture, transfer, and possession of semiautomatic assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices. On May 5, 1994, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4296, which is similar in substance to title XLV of H.R. 3355. These bills will soon be before a Conference Committee on which I understand you will serve as a Conferee.

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May 23, 1994

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hatch:

Shortly before the Congress recessed last November, the Senate passed H.R. 3355, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1993. Of particular interest to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is title XLV of the bill, the Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act, which would restrict the manufacture, transfer, and possession of semiautomatic assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices. On May 5, 1994, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4296, which is similar in substance to title XLV of H.R. 3355. These bills will soon be before a Conference Committee on which I understand you will serve as a Conferee.

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May 23, 1994

The Honorable Strom Thurmond United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Thurmond:

Shortly before the Congress recessed last November, the Senate passed H.R. 3355, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1993. Of particular interest to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is title XLV of the bill, the Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act, which would restrict the manufacture, transfer, and possession of semiautomatic assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices. On May 5, 1994, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4296, which is similar in substance to title XLV of H.R. 3355. These bills will soon be before a Conference Committee on which I understand you will serve as a Conferee.

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May 23, 1994

The Honorable Alan K. Simpson United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Simpson:

Shortly before the Congress recessed last November, the Senate passed H.R. 3355, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1993. Of particular interest to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is title XLV of the bill, the Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act, which would restrict the manufacture, transfer, and possession of semiautomatic assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices. On May 5, 1994, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4296, which is similar in substance to title XLV of H.R. 3355. These bills will soon be before a Conference Committee on which I understand you will serve as a Conferee.

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May 23, 1994

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Grassley:

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