



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

June 6, 1994

Admiral Bruce DeMars
Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion
Department of the Navy
Washington, D.C. 20362-5101

Dear Admiral DeMars:

On behalf of my Commission colleagues, I want to congratulate you on the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program's historic achievement of steaming in excess of 100 million miles on nuclear power. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is pleased to have been a participant in this program by reviewing new nuclear propulsion plant designs and by maintaining close communication on other technical matters relevant to our common interests. As you requested, I have passed your letter and attachments to those in the NRC who are directly associated with the Naval Program in recognition of their contribution to this achievement.

As you know, the foundations of your program -- conservative design and operation, rigorous testing, high quality personnel and training, respect for the environment, and ensuring the health and safety of the public -- served as the model for the commercial nuclear power program that the NRC is responsible for regulating. I am confident that strict adherence to these principles is the primary reason for the excellent safety record that the NRC and the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program have achieved over the years. Your program's record-setting performance demonstrates once again that these principles are as important today as they were in the early days of nuclear propulsion.

The Commission looks forward to our continuing association with the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program in support of national security.

Sincerely,

Ivan Selin

cc: Secretary of Defense
Secretary of Energy
Secretary of the Navy

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