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

May 14, 1992

The Honorable Bob Clement
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Clement:

In response to your letter of May 8, 1992, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is writing to express its views on H.R. 4488, the Nuclear Reactor Licensing Act. The provisions of H.R. 4488 are identical to Title IX, Nuclear Reactor Licensing, of S. 2166, the National Energy Security Act, as passed by the Senate in February.

The NRC supports licensing reform legislation which would grant additional flexibility and confirm our existing authority regarding the timing and format of post-construction hearings; H.R. 4488 meets these requirements. Additionally, H.R. 4488 would codify major provisions of Part 52, the NRC's rule streamlining the nuclear plant licensing process. Codification would add stability to the licensing process by mooted ongoing federal court litigation challenging critical portions of the rule which has the potential to continue for some years into the future. Therefore, the NRC supports the provisions for nuclear reactor licensing in H.R. 4488.

Sincerely,

Ivan Selin

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