



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

September 1, 1998

The Honorable Joseph McDade, Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

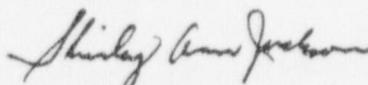
I am pleased to invite you to attend a ceremony which will mark a significant achievement for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the future of the safe and efficiently regulated use of nuclear energy. On September 11, 1998, the NRC will present the Final Design Approval (FDA) for the AP600 standard nuclear reactor design to Westinghouse Electric Company.

This event will mark the successful conclusion of many years of NRC staff efforts. Issuance of this FDA signifies completion of the technical review phase of Westinghouse's application for certification of the AP600 design. This FDA can be referenced in an application for a construction permit or operating license under 10 CFR Part 50, or an application for a combined license under 10 CFR Part 52.

To mark this occasion, we will hold a presentation ceremony on September 11th at 1:30 p.m. in the exhibit area of our Two White Flint North building in Rockville, Maryland. We are inviting the Secretary of Energy, Westinghouse officials, industry leaders, and other interested officials. I sincerely hope that you or a member of your staff will join us for this important event.

Dennis Rathbun, Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, will be glad to assist you and your staff on any questions you may have. I look forward to hearing that you can attend.

Sincerely,


Shirley Ann Jackson

cc: Vic Fazio

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PDR COMMS NRCC
CORRESPONDENCE PDR