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The Honorable Lando W. Zech, Jr.
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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Dear Chairman Zech:

I am writing to express my support for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's proposed interpretive rule change to 10 CFR 50.47 (d), Emergency Planning and Preparedness Requirements for Nuclear Power Plant Fuel Loading and Initial Low Power Operations.

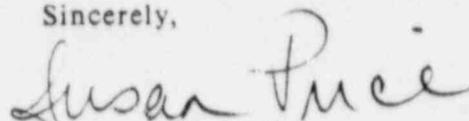
I recognize the need for the need for the proposed rule clarification with regard to the requirements for offsite emergency warning siren systems at the low-power testing level. It is clear that low-power testing operations do not pose any threat to public health and safety.

Moreover, I am also aware of the situation at Seabrook, where the plant owners have worked hard to install prompt notification systems in the Massachusetts communities within 10 miles of the plant, but those efforts have been thwarted, for purely political reasons, by anti-nuclear activists, local and state government entities.

Congress in 1980 specifically empowered the NRC to oversee the licensing and operation of commercial nuclear power plants, and I believe it is important for the government to maintain control of nuclear power plant licensing. State and local governments cannot be allowed to thwart this process by simply walking away from the issue.

This proposed rule clarification does not lessen the safeguards that the NRC has put in place to ensure safe operation of the nation's nuclear plants, while at the same time it does clear up an apparent point of confusion over pre-operational planning requirements. I support this Commission initiative.

Sincerely,



Susan Price
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