



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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May 29, 1998

Dr. E.A.S. Sarma
Secretary
Ministry of Power
Shram Shakti Bhawan
New Delhi 110 001
India

Dear Dr. Sarma:

Thank you for meeting with me on April 13, during my recent trip to India. I was very interested in our discussion of India's overall energy scene, which served as an excellent backdrop to my subsequent meetings with other Indian Government and private sector energy, power, science and technology, and nuclear officials. Each of these meetings provided important opportunities to discuss our respective countries' differing nuclear energy regulatory and safety policies.

I had hoped these discussions would contribute to the process of reassessing U.S.-Indian nuclear relations, particularly given the real enthusiasm with which my visit met, and in light of India's pressing energy needs, which you described so eloquently. Unfortunately, the recent Indian Government detonation of nuclear devices means our reassessment will not go forward. Given the triggering of U.S. economic sanctions against India under the Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act of 1994, it would be inappropriate to proceed with the implementation of the three Nuclear Regulatory Commission-Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (NRC-AERB) nuclear safety projects. In this regard I have instructed NRC staff to immediately suspend all efforts related to the projects.

Again, thank you for the informative and insightful meeting.

Sincerely,

Shirley Ann Jackson

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CORRESPONDENCE PDR

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