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Secretary of the Commission
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Secretary:

I am writing to you about safety in nuclear power plants. As a psychologist, I am keenly aware of the effects on performance of inadequate sleep. There are many good studies which show that human performance deteriorates when individuals have not managed to get enough sleep. Such studies demonstrate, for example, that many auto accidents and fatalities are caused by fatigue. Current regulations to protect the public from nuclear accidents caused by tired and overworked employees are not sufficiently stringent. I therefore urge you to support Proposed Rule #1, which will mandate monitoring of fatigue levels equivalent to monitoring of substance use.

In addition, I urge you to implement Proposed Rule #2, which mandates training on employee protection to "whistle blowers" by plant supervisors, managers and directors. If line staff fear they will lose their jobs or be otherwise punished for mentioning safety problems, then the public is in danger. Please accept this measure.

Thanks for you attention.

Sincerely,



Laura Magzis, Ph.D.