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'99 DEC 17 P 3:09

DOCKET NUMBER

PETITION RULE PRM 26-2
(64FR67202)

C-4
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December 13, 1999

Secretary of the Commission
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Sir:

We write in support of two new rules regarding nuclear regulations:

- 1) Establish limits on employee working hours at nuclear power plants.
- 2) Train supervisors, managers, and directors regarding the employee protection regulation. This rule will protect whistle-blowers who conscientiously raise safety concerns.

These two rules are essential to prevent fatigue from impairing the performance of nuclear plant workers' performance, whether a nuclear power plant is operating or shut down, and will prevent fear from causing nuclear plant workers to remain silent about safety problems.

They will also prevent supervisors, managers, and directors from using "ignorance of the law" to attempt to evade discipline for their illegal actions.

These rules are essential to protect the public and the environment from a nuclear power plant accident.

We urge the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to adopt and enforce these rules.

Sincerely,

Virginia F. Walters

Virginia F. Walters
(Mrs. Richard H. Walters)

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