

April 23, 2007

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Chairman, Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Madam Chairman:

As you may know, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has captured the top ranking among large Federal agencies in the "2007 Best Places to Work in the Federal Government" rankings announced Thursday, April 19, 2007 by the Partnership for Public Service and the American University Institute for the Study of Public Policy Implementation. This recognition is a great honor for all of the men and women at the NRC. Agency employees are clearly committed to the mission of licensing and regulating the Nation's civilian use of byproduct, source, and special nuclear materials to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety, promoting the common defense and security, and protecting the environment. As evidenced by this award, the NRC staff has the dedication and commitment that make the NRC a great place to work.

As the Commission looks to the future, we plan to recruit 400 new employees each year for the next few years to ensure that the agency has the workforce needed to support adequately the expected arrival of nearly two dozen applications for new reactor licenses beginning this fall. This ranking will surely help us as we work to recruit top-tier employees with the skills necessary to carry out NRC's mission. NRC Senior Managers are committed to ensuring that the NRC remains responsive to employee needs and that our workforce remains innovative and effective.

While the Commission is very proud that the NRC was named 2007's "Best Place to Work," we know that we could not have achieved this acclaim without the continued cooperation of Congress. Very simply, I would like to say thank you. Thank you especially for your commitment to funding our increased hiring efforts. I know that Congress supports us as we continue to enable the Nation to safely use radioactive materials for beneficial civilian purposes while ensuring that people and the environment are protected – and I know that this support is a large part of what makes the NRC a great place to work.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Dale E. Klein

Identical letters sent to:

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Chairman, Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable James M. Inhofe
Ranking Member, Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Chairman, Subcommittee on Clean Air
and Nuclear Safety
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable George V. Voinovich
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Clean Air
and Nuclear Safety
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Byron Dorgan
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
and Water Development
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Pete V. Domenici
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy
and Water Development
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Dingell
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Joe Barton
Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rick Boucher
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy
and Air Quality
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Peter J. Visclosky
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
and Water Development
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable David L. Hobson
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy
and Air Quality
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515