



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 5, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Chairman  
Commissioner Rogers  
Commissioner de Planque  
FROM: *Dennis K. Rathbun*  
Dennis K. Rathbun, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL ISSUES

As you know, near the end of a session, and in particular the end of a Congress, events move very quickly. For that reason I thought the Office of Congressional Affairs should provide updates to the status of issues which we sent you on September 27, 1994. We will continue to keep you apprised of events of interest to the Commission, and will put out another update on Friday, October 7, 1994.

NRC COMMISSIONERS

The President announced his intention to nominate Shirley Jackson, Robert Sussman and Dan Berkovitz to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (White House Press Release is attached.) The White House said that the President will nominate Shirley Jackson.

As a result of the intent to nominate Mr. Berkovitz, he has indicated that he will no longer be in the loop on all Committee nominees, including NRC nominees.

NRC AUTHORIZATION BILL

The Senate Appropriations Committee reconsidered lifting their hold on the bill. We understand the hold is back on and the bill will not clear the Senate.

*Ally*

### CONGRESSIONAL RECESS/LAME DUCK SESSION

Majority Leader George Mitchell said that he plans for the Senate to complete action before going into recess on conference reports to: the education bill, a California desert protection bill (S. 21), and a lobbying disclosure bill and gift ban measure to bring Congress under the coverage of major work place laws and on a global treaty. He said he retains the option of keeping the Senate in session next week to finish what cannot be completed this week. The Senate is scheduled to return in late November for about two days, to vote on GATT.

In the House, about 70 members from both sides of the aisle have signed a petition asking that House put off action on the trade agreement until after the November elections. Currently the House is slated to begin action on GATT on October 5. The House had planned to move ahead this week, before they recess on October 7.

### SUPERFUND

The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works continues to work on the Superfund bill with the hope of Senate action. The Committee has requested from the NRC draft language that would revise the term "federally permitted release". The draft language was provided in a separate memorandum.

### GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT REFORM ACT

On October 4 the House approved S. 2170, the Government Management Reform Act, clearing it for the President's signature. Provisions in S. 2170 of interest to the NRC would: (1) limit accrual of SES leave to 90 days, (2) pay new federal employees and retirees by electronic funds transfer, (3) direct OMB to streamline and eliminate reports to Congress, (4) require agencies to produce audited financial statements for all activities, (5) establish franchise funds, and (6) limit SES COLAs to that received by General Schedule employees.

### CENTRAL MIDWEST LOW-LEVEL WASTE COMPACT

It has cleared the House and the Senate Judiciary Committee. It is ready to go to the Senate floor.