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

April 7, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Chairman  
Commissioner Rogers  
Commissioner Remick  
Commissioner de Planque

FROM: Dennis K. Rathbun, Director *OK*  
Office of Congressional Affairs

SUBJECT: PROSPECTIVE HEARINGS FOR SECOND SESSION OF  
103RD CONGRESS

Attached for your information is a summary of prospective hearings relevant to the NRC and being monitored by the Office of Congressional Affairs.

Attachment:  
As Stated

cc: EDO  
OGC  
SECY  
OPA  
OIP  
OIG  
ACRS  
ACNW  
OCAA

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April 7, 1994

### **Prospective Hearings for Second Session**

- In general, the Congress is preoccupied with Health Care issues, the Whitewater situation, and other things and has paid scant attention to any energy or nuclear issues.
- Below is a review of our respective Committees:
  - Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works:
    - Authorization Hearing: no hearing is planned and Committee staff sees no need nor reason for such a hearing since they did have an authorization hearing in the first session. A budget/authorization testimony was submitted.
    - Authorization Markup -- Planned for full Committee markup during the month of April. Focus will be the NRC legislative package, the Metzenbaum amendment on medical misadministration penalties, and other issues. There is no interest in dealing with the NRC license fee issue.
    - Other issues of Committee interest -- Vogtle and the enforcement action; vehicular bomb as a followup to last year's March hearing on safeguard threats to nuclear power plants; potassium iodide, Commission action on the Review team's report on protecting alleged.
  - House Committee on Natural Resources:
    - Authorization Hearing: no hearing is planned and Committee staff sees no need nor reason for such a hearing since they had an authorization hearing in the first session.
    - Authorization Markup -- None is currently scheduled; however, it is probable that they will have a markup of an NRC authorization bill starting with whatever is produced by the Senate. There is some sympathy and interest in ameliorating the NRC license fee situation: their interest is limited to NRC's authority to bill other agencies.
    - Federal Facilities Legislation -- The future for this is murky.

- House Appropriations Subcommittee:
  - Appropriations hearing held March 17. Markup is likely to be May/June. No further hearings planned and no further information requirements.
- Senate Appropriations Subcommittee:
  - No appropriation hearing is planned or likely as has been their practice since the mid-80's.
- Senate Governmental Affairs Committee:
  - The Committee is working on the reauthorization of the Export Administration Act. There will be hearings, but we do not expect the NRC to be asked to testify.
- House Energy and Commerce Committee:
  - Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations is currently looking into allegations at the South Texas project. Members of his staff were briefed on this issue and they expect to visit the plant. There is a slight possibility that this could develop into a hearing; it is too soon to tell. Also, the Subcommittee had an interest in Vogtle in the past; their interest could be renewed.
  - Subcommittee on Energy and Power does not anticipate a budget/authorization hearing this year.
  - Rep. Dingell's full Committee staff is following closely events at Fermi.
- House Foreign Affairs Committee:
  - The Committee is working on the Export Administration Act. Hearings will take place but is it unlikely that the NRC will testify.
- House Government Operations Committee:
  - Congressman Synar and Senator Glenn (Senate Governmental Affairs) asked GAO to review the Agreement States' SDMP-type programs. The study is in progress. Potential for a hearing later in Calendar Year 1994.

- The Subcommittee on Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources previously indicated their intent to have a hearing on NRC's materials program. It now appears unlikely that the hearing will take place this session. The Subcommittee is also interested in Sequoyah Fuels and improvements in the Agreement State program.