

July 23, 2007

Ms. Rebecca Smith-Kevern  
Office of Light-Water Reactor Development  
U.S. Department of Energy  
19901 Germantown Road, Routing: NE-31  
Germantown, MD 20874

Dear Ms. Smith-Kevern:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) sincerely appreciates the stakeholder feedback received in response to the request, dated May 16, 2007, from Brian W. Sheron, Director, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, regarding the draft report, entitled "U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Long-Term Research: Fiscal Year (FY) 2009." That draft report is available through the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), under Accession No. ML071270360.

As you know, the draft report represents the first step in identifying candidate activities for inclusion in the agency's integrated long-term regulatory research plan. Consequently, stakeholder feedback on the draft report will be very valuable as our working group prepares the NRC's final research plan for FY 2009, which we expect to issue by the end of 2007.

Consistent with our strategic goal of ensuring openness in our regulatory process, the NRC has made all stakeholder comments available in ADAMS under the following accession numbers:

- Argonne National Laboratory, ML071900343
- Brookhaven National Laboratory, ML071900346
- Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses, ML071900222
- U.S. Department of Energy, Office of the Under Secretary for Science, ML071900349
- U.S. Department of Energy, Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy, ML071930343
- Electric Power Research Institute, ML071900353
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Chief of Safety and Mission Assurance, ML071900122
- Nuclear Energy Institute, ML071900376
- Sandia National Laboratories, ML071900380

These comments are very informative, and will prove key to the agency's efforts to leverage resources on long-term research issues. Additionally, the review comments provided by the NRC's Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) and Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste and Materials (ACNW&M) are available in ADAMS under Accession Nos. ML071360105 and ML071790071, respectively.

R. Smith-Kevern

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If additional activities or collaborative opportunities arise, please continue to engage our working group on this topic.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Christiana H. Lui, Deputy Director  
New Reactors and Computational Analysis  
Division of Risk Assessment and Special Projects  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

R. Smith-Kevern

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If additional activities or collaborative opportunities arise, please continue to engage our working group on this topic.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Christiana H. Lui, Deputy Director  
New Reactors and Computational Analysis  
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**Identical Letters Sent To: See next page**

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