



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

inc

MAR 20 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: ✓ Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Robert B. Minogue, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: James R. Shea, Director
Office of International Programs

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY REGARDING DOWNSIZING
OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

Senator Harry F. Byrd, Jr. has addressed a letter to Carlton Kammerer, OCA, requesting NRC comments on an article in the November 10 issue of Business Week entitled "Downsizing Nuclear Plants." (An information copy of this letter was sent to your office March 12, EDO Control No. 10243.) We have compiled the attached available factual information on reactor downsizing in the foreign countries mentioned in the article and would like NRR and RES to comment on NRC staff opinions and policy regarding these smaller reactors--specifically as described in the Business Week article--for inclusion in the response to Senator Byrd. (We plan to summarize this factual information in the response.) IP would appreciate comments by Friday, March 27. The IP contact for this matter is Ann Gore, ext. 27788.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jim Shea", is written above the typed name.

James R. Shea, Director
Office of International Programs

Enclosures:

1. Byrd ltr to Kammerer, w/att.
2. Atoms in Japan article.
3. Nucleonics Week articles:
Dec. 4/80; Mar. 13/80;
Apr. 17/80; Oct. 2/80.
4. The Economist article, Oct. 18/80.
5. Shea to Gilinsky memo, Jan. 12/81.

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FROM: Sen. Harry F. Byrd, Jr.		ACTION CONTROL		DATES		CONTROL NO.	
TO: Kammerer		COMPL DEADLINE		3/31/81		10243	
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Requests commentary on article in Nov. 10 issue of Business Week Magazine entitled "Downsizing Nuclear Plants", and the referenced "downsizing" research in Canada the Soviet Union, France, and some countries of Scandinavia.		I assume NRR/RES would want to know more before they can contribute opinions. Check and see - transfer response to appropriate office if necessary & advise Margo. T. Rehm					
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