



February 27, 1985

IDENTICAL LETTER SENT TO:  
Rep. Markey/cc: Rep. Moorhead  
Sen. Simpson/cc: Sen. Hart  
Rep. Udall/cc: Rep. Lujan  
Sen. Hatfield/cc: Sen. Johnston  
Sen. Biden

*Cyrus D. Duck*  
*Roe*  
*Rubin*  
*Stille*  
*Wargo*

The Honorable Tom Bevill, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In 1984 Congress directed (P.L. 98-360) the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to conduct a study of the need for and feasibility of an independent organization responsible for conducting investigations of significant safety events. In response to that directive, the Commission contracted with Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) to conduct the study.

On February 15, 1985, the Laboratory transmitted its report to NRC: NUREG/CR-4152, "An Independent Safety Organization." The report examines three major issues: (1) the need for an independent organization, (2) alternative organizational structures for such a body, and (3) the legislative authority needed to establish it.

The staff and the Commissioners have not been able to review the report to formulate a position and proposed course of action. However, to comply with P.L. 98-360, we are transmitting the BNL report without recommendations at this time. Our staff currently is undertaking a review and will report to the Commission later this year. At that time the Commission may also ask for public comment.

Sincerely,

Carlton Kammerer, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:  
NUREG/CR-4152

cc: Rep. John T. Myers

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