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PETITION RULE PRM26-2
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ADJE

Secretary of the Commission U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington DC 20555-0001

Dear Sir:

I wish to make few comments in support of proposed rules which are essential to protect workers employed at the nuclear power plants.

- Prevent fatigue that would impair the performance of the nuclear plant worker.
- Prevent fatigued workers from repairing, inspecting and testing safety equipment 2. when nuclear power plants are operating or are shut down.
- Prevent fear from causing nuclear plant workers to remain silent about safety problems.
- Prevent supervisors, managers and directors from using "ignorance of the law" as a shield for their illegal actions.
- Protect the public and the environment from a possible nuclear power plant accident.

The Union of Concerned Scientists petitioned the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to adopt a rule requiring supervisors, managers and directors in the nuclear industry to be trained on employee protection regulations. This new rule would eliminate once and for all the "ignorance of the law" excuse. In the future you would have no reason to set aside sanctions against individuals breaking the employee protection regulations. UCS's proposed new rule was published in the Federal Register on October 27, 1999.

It is time for the Federal Government to impose working hour limits on employees at nuclear power plants. The proposed rule was published in the Federal Register on December 1, 1999.

It is believed that personal accountability will be far more effective in reducing harassment and intimidation against nuclear workers than your past practice of the occasional fine against companies.

Sincerely,

12/22/97

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