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

Dear Sir,

I would like to voice my support for two new proposed rules. The first proposed rule is one to establish limits on employee working hours at nuclear power plants. The second proposed rule is one to provide training on employee protection regulations to supervisors, managers, and directors at nuclear power plants in order to protect employees who act as "whistleblowers".

Imposing working hour limits is not new for a government agency and is necessary to ensure that economic interests by power plant corporations do not violate safety, which is particularly important when dealing with nuclear power. Likewise, protection for whistleblowers is essential for ensuring that those closest to everyday plant operation voice safety concerns if they arise without fear of repercussion. Educating supervisors of employee rights will eliminate a large loophole that allows whistleblowers to be harassed and/or fired because their supervisors are not aware that this is illegal.

Both new rules are essential for preventing fatigue from impairing nuclear plant worker performance (whether the plant is operating or shutdown), fear from causing plant workers to remain silent regarding safety problems, and supervisors from using "ignorance of the law" as a shield for their illegal actions. Ultimately and most importantly, both proposed rules will also help better protect the public and environment from a nuclear power accident.

Sincerely

Philip A. Marrone
Philip A. Marrone

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