



CHAIRMAN

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 22, 2021

The Honorable Gary C. Peters
Chairman, Committee on Homeland
Security and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am submitting this letter as the NRC's annual report related to the protection of whistleblowers required by the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018" (Public Law 115-91) (the Act). Section 1097(d)(1) of the Act requires agencies to incorporate the protection of whistleblowers into job requirements and performance standards of supervisory employees. Thereafter, each agency must report annually to Congress the number of supervisors who failed to meet these critical standards, the reasons for the determination that they failed, and what performance-based or corrective actions were taken by the agency in response. I can report that the NRC had no confirmed violations of the Act during our last performance cycle of fiscal year 2020.

Since the passage of the Act, Federal agencies have received further direction from the Office of Special Counsel (OSC) and the Office of Personnel Management indicating that joint guidance will be issued for agencies on the inclusion of whistleblower protection criteria in supervisory performance appraisals as required by the Act. OSC recently provided language that it currently uses in its performance standards, which the NRC is evaluating for incorporation in our performance standards for fiscal year 2022.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me, or have your staff contact Eugene Dacus, Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, at (301) 415-1776.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. T. Hanson".

Christopher T. Hanson

cc: Senator Rob Portman

Identical letter sent to:

The Honorable Gary C. Peters
Chairman, Committee on Homeland
Security and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510
cc: Senator Rob Portman

The Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney
Chairman, Committee on Oversight
and Reform
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
cc: Representative James Comer

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Chairman, Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510
cc: Senator Shelley Moore Capito

The Honorable Edward Markey
Chairman, Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate
and Nuclear Safety
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510
cc: Senator James Inhofe

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.
Chairman, Committee on Energy
and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
cc: Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers

The Honorable Bobby L. Rush
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
cc: Representative Fred Upton

The Honorable Paul Tonko
Chairman, Subcommittee on Environment
and Climate Change
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
cc: Representative David B. McKinley