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ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-1701

December 13, 2011

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing regarding the October 13<sup>th</sup> letter from four Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners to White House Chief of Staff William Daley, in which they cite serious damage caused by NRC Chairman Gregory Jaczko to the functioning of the Commission.

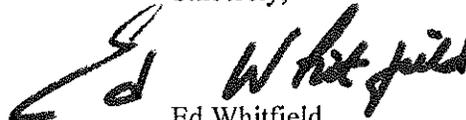
Nuclear safety and the ability of the NRC to respond to policy and operational matters in the nuclear industry are paramount to the wellbeing and security of our nuclear fleet and the protection of our citizens. As the Chairman of the Energy and Power Subcommittee which oversees nuclear safety and the NRC, I am very concerned that a bipartisan group of Commissioners have contacted your office with specific examples of intimidation, bullying, and the withholding of information by Chairman Jaczko. To my knowledge, in spite of these serious concerns having been raised some months ago, the White House has done nothing to remedy the situation, except to announce a third party review. The situation at the NRC sounds dire, leaving me very concerned that the Chairman is unable to lead the Commission in the fulfillment of its responsibilities.

Additionally, many of us in Congress are concerned that Chairman Jaczko is openly advancing the policy and political agendas of Senator Reid and Congressman Markey, a concern reinforced by his actions over the past several months.

Nuclear safety is vitally important and something all of us must take very seriously. Nuclear power is an essential part of our electricity infrastructure and the United States has a stellar record in our ability to operate nuclear power plants in a safe and efficient manner. One of the main reasons we have such an outstanding nuclear safety and production record in the U.S. is because of the NRC. Chairman Jaczko's reported actions erode public confidence in the Commission and in Chairman Jaczko's ability to lead it. Because of the great seriousness of this matter and the urgent need to reinstate trust in the NRC's ability to regulate our nuclear industry, I request that you move immediately to replace Mr. Jaczko as Chairman.

I look forward to your reply and stand ready to work with you to resolve the challenges facing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Sincerely,



Ed Whitfield  
Member of Congress

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