

Extracts Copied from House Report 110-185

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1st Session } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES { REPORT
110-185

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS
BILL, 2008

JUNE 11, 2007.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. VISCLOSKY, from the Committee on Appropriations,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

ADDITIONAL VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 2641]

NUCLEAR ENERGY |

University education assistance.—The Committee provides no funding in the DOE nuclear energy account for grants and fellowships that support nuclear science and engineering education, the same as the budget request. However, the Committee provides \$15,000,000 for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to execute the university education assistance program. DOE annually requests no funding for education assistance, and the Congress sees fit every year to restore the funding. It is irresponsible for the Department to zero out education assistance at a time when the nuclear industry is attempting to revitalize. By requesting no funds for this program, the Department sends the wrong signal to aspiring students in the nuclear field that there is a lack of a commitment to a future with nuclear energy. The Committee therefore entrusts the NRC with the responsibility of providing a sustainable education assistance program.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

The Committee is pleased that the Commission is continuing to fund academic scholarships and fellowships to enable students to pursue education in science, engineering, and other fields of study that constitute critical skills areas needed to sustain the NRC's regulatory mission. The Committee provides an additional \$15,000,000 to support the Commission's efforts. Some of these funds are to be used to help support scholarships to attend trade school programs that develop skills needed to facilitate construction and operation of nuclear facilities and the handling of nuclear materials. In addition, these funds are to be used for college scholarships and graduate fellowships to develop critical nuclear regulatory skills and those skills needed by the regulated industries, including engineering and health physics, and for faculty development grants supporting faculty in these academic areas in the first six years of their careers.