EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

October 18, 1999

The Honorable David Michaels, Ph.D.
Assistant Secretary for Environment,
Safety and Health
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Dr. Michaels:

Enclosed is a copy for you of our most recent CEQ Annual Report. This Report, covering the calendar year 1997, focuses on the World Wide Web and its essential role in increasing both the public awareness and efficiency of the National Environmental Policy Act. Neither the Report nor the underlying Web presence for NEPA could exist today without the hard work and careful engineering of your NEPA Web team.

Throughout the first twenty-five years of NEPA's existence, numerous environmental analyses on federal, tribal, state and local government projects were performed. However, valuable data contained in these analyses were not stored in a retrievable manner. In 1993, CEQ became aware of the efforts of your organization to use World Wide Web technology as part of the NEPA education process and worked with your dedicated staff to promote a NEPA Web presence that would encourage synergy among environmental disciplines needed to integrate the contents of environmental analyses over time and geography.

Lee Jessee, Steve Madaras, Steve Scott and Betty Beavers have each contributed to this effort, through which agency-specific NEPA and related data sets were consolidated into one national Web resource, called NEPAnet. This work represents a benchmark for advancing the NEPA process and public access. It is now a primary reference source cited at all NEPA seminars, in NEPA treatises and throughout the environmental community we serve.

Thank you for the essential role your staff played – and continues to play – in making NEPAnet a success. Your continued support of our Administration's NEPA goals is greatly appreciated.

Best regards,

George T. Frampton, Jr.

George T. Frampton, Jr.
Acting Chair

GTF/dss

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