

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2454**  
**OFFERED BY MR. SCHOCK OF ILLINOIS**

Page 296, after line 6, insert the following new section:

**1 SEC. 199. STREAMLINE THE REGULATORY PROCESS.**

**2 (a) FAST TRACK.—**

**3 (1) PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY.—**Nothing in  
**4** this subsection shall supersede, mitigate, detract  
**5** from, or in anyway decrease the Nuclear Regulatory  
**6** Commission's ability to maintain the highest possible  
**7** levels of public health and safety standards for nu-  
**8** clear facilities in the United States. No authority  
**9** granted by this subsection shall be executed in a  
**10** manner that jeopardizes, minimizes, reduces, or  
**11** lessens public health and safety standards.

**12 (2) STREAMLINING COMBINED CONSTRUCTION**  
**13 AND OPERATING LICENSE.—**

**14 (A) IN GENERAL.—**The Nuclear Regu-  
**15** latory Commission shall establish and imple-  
**16** ment an expedited procedure for issuing a Com-  
**17** bined Construction and Operating License for  
**18** qualified new reactors.

1 (B) QUALIFICATIONS.—To qualify for the  
2 expedited procedure under this paragraph, an  
3 applicant shall—

4 (i) apply for construction of a reactor  
5 based on a design approved by the Nuclear  
6 Regulatory Commission;

7 (ii) construct the new reactor on a site  
8 where an operating nuclear power plant al-  
9 ready exists;

10 (iii) establish to the satisfaction of the  
11 Nuclear Regulatory Commission that there  
12 is broad local public support for the  
13 project;

14 (iv) be an existing nuclear powerplant  
15 owner or operator with a substantial  
16 record of safe operations and be in good  
17 standing with the Nuclear Regulatory  
18 Commission;

19 (v) submit a complete Combined Con-  
20 struction and Operating License applica-  
21 tion; and

22 (vi) demonstrate sufficient financial  
23 commitment to the project and prepared-  
24 ness to proceed in earnest once the permit  
25 is issued, as demonstrated by—

1 (I) the purchase of, or contract  
2 to purchase, long-lead materials; or

3 (II) assured financing.

4 (C) EXPEDITED PROCEDURE.—With re-  
5 spect to a license for which the applicant has  
6 satisfied the requirements of subparagraph (B)  
7 and seeks fast track consideration, the Nuclear  
8 Regulatory Commission shall follow the fol-  
9 lowing procedures:

10 (i) Undertake a one year expedited  
11 environmental review process.

12 (ii) Commence a one year public com-  
13 ment period for comments on the applica-  
14 tion.

15 (iii) Expedite the technical review  
16 process to that amount of time which is  
17 necessary to efficiently issue Combined  
18 Construction and Operating License per-  
19 mits without sacrificing any aspect of pub-  
20 lic health or safety.

21 (D) GOALS.—The Nuclear Regulatory  
22 Commission shall present recommendations to  
23 Congress within 90 days of the date of enact-  
24 ment of this Act for procedures that would  
25 allow the Commission to pursue a transparent,

1 fact-based process in a nonadversarial environ-  
2 ment where it can make decisions based on  
3 sound science and engineering as expeditiously  
4 as practicable. These recommendations shall en-  
5 compass an efficient process that allows those  
6 parties that have standing to participate in the  
7 proceedings to raise legitimate concerns to be  
8 heard and resolved without undue delay.

9 (3) NUCLEAR STEAM SUPPLY SYSTEM DESIGN  
10 CERTIFICATION.—The Nuclear Regulatory Commis-  
11 sion shall establish a schedule for certification of a  
12 Nuclear Steam Supply System reactor that main-  
13 tains the highest levels of public health and safety.  
14 Such schedule shall seek to reduce by one half the  
15 time necessary to certify a reactor design. Such a  
16 schedule shall be presented to Congress within one  
17 year of date of enactment of this Act.

18 (4) TECHNOLOGY NEUTRAL PLANT DESIGN  
19 SPECIFICATIONS.—Within one year of the date of  
20 enactment of this Act, the Nuclear Regulatory Com-  
21 mission shall outline to the Congress an approach  
22 that will allow the Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
23 to develop technology-neutral guidelines for nuclear  
24 plant licensing in the future that would allow for the

1 more seamless entry of new technologies into the  
2 marketplace.

3 (5) ADDITIONAL FUNDING AND PERSONNEL RE-  
4 SOURCES.—Not later than 90 days after the date of  
5 enactment of this Act, the Nuclear Regulatory Com-  
6 mission shall transmit to the Congress a request for  
7 such additional funding and personnel resources as  
8 are necessary to carry out paragraphs (1) through  
9 (4).

10 (6) NATIONAL LABORATORY SUPPORT.—Each  
11 national laboratory with expertise in the nuclear  
12 field shall, in coordination with the Nuclear Regu-  
13 latory Commission, dedicate personnel to supporting  
14 either or both of the expedited design certification  
15 under paragraph (3) or the expedited licensing pro-  
16 cedures under paragraph (2).

17 (7) EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FUNDS.—To both  
18 support the Nation's effort to efficiently license new  
19 nuclear power plants and build the expertise and  
20 workforce necessary to regulate and operate those  
21 plants, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the  
22 Department of Energy shall direct educational fund-  
23 ing to programs to enhance or directly support the  
24 activities authorized by this subsection.

1 (b) NATIONAL POLICY GOAL.—It is the policy goal  
2 of the United States to license 100 new nuclear reactors,  
3 or the megawatt equivalent, by 2030, if there are a suffi-  
4 cient number of applicants.

5 (c) MANDATORY HEARINGS FOR UNCONTESTED LI-  
6 CENSE APPLICANTS.—

7 (1) Sections 189A(1)(A) of the Atomic Energy  
8 Act of 1954 is modified thus:

9 “(A) In any proceeding under this Act, for  
10 the granting, suspending, revoking, or amend-  
11 ing of any license or construction permit, or ap-  
12 plication to transfer control, and in any pro-  
13 ceeding for the issuance or modification of rules  
14 and regulations dealing with the activities of li-  
15 censees, and in any proceeding for the payment  
16 of compensation, an award, or royalties under  
17 section 153, 157, 186c., or 188, the Commis-  
18 sion shall grant a hearing upon the request of  
19 any person whose interest may be affected by  
20 the proceeding, and shall admit any such per-  
21 son as a party to such proceeding. The Com-  
22 mission may, in the absence of a request there-  
23 for by any person whose interest may be af-  
24 fected, issue a construction permit, an oper-  
25 ating license or an amendment to a construc-

1           tion permit or an amendment to an operating  
2           license without a hearing, but upon thirty days'  
3           notice and publication once in the Federal Reg-  
4           ister of its intent to do so. The Commission  
5           may dispense with such thirty days' notice and  
6           publication with respect to any application for  
7           an amendment to a construction permit or an  
8           amendment to an operating license upon a de-  
9           termination by the Commission that the amend-  
10          ment involves no significant hazards consider-  
11          ation.”.

12           (2) Section 185b of the Atomic Energy Act of  
13          1954 is modified thus:

14          “b. After any public hearing held under section  
15          189a.(1)(A), the Commission shall issue to the applicant  
16          a combined construction and operating license if the appli-  
17          cation contains sufficient information to support the  
18          issuance of a combined license and the Commission deter-  
19          mines that there is reasonable assurance that the facility  
20          will be constructed and will operate in conformity with the  
21          license, the provisions of this Act, and the Commission's  
22          rules and regulations. The Commission shall identify with-  
23          in the combined license the inspections, tests, and anal-  
24          yses, including those applicable to emergency planning,  
25          that the licensee shall perform, and the acceptance criteria

1 that, if met, are necessary and sufficient to provide rea-  
2 sonable assurance that the facility has been constructed  
3 and will be operated in conformity with the license, the  
4 provisions of this Act, and the Commission's rules and  
5 regulations. Following issuance of the combined license,  
6 the Commission shall ensure that the prescribed inspec-  
7 tions, tests, and analyses are performed and, prior to oper-  
8 ation of the facility, shall find that the prescribed accept-  
9 ance criteria are met. Any finding made under this sub-  
10 section shall not require a hearing except as provided in  
11 section 189a.(1)(B).”

