

UNITED STATE<u>S</u> NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

NRC comment on the Jan. 22, 2006 "West Wing" nuclear accident episode:

While the producers of "The West Wing" did not contact the Nuclear Regulatory Commission prior to this episode, the agency appreciates the fact that the show's writers portray the NRC as part of a cooperative Federal, state and local response to an accident at a nuclear power plant. Despite the episode's several technical errors, the NRC also appreciates the writers' depiction of informed, reasoned, decision-making focused on protecting public health and safety. The NRC understands the writers' literary license in assigning roles and responsibilities to various characters in the show, but the NRC would be the federal coordinating agency in any event involving a nuclear power plant.