

## Westinghouse Objects To Nonproliferation Bill

*In an official statement by Westinghouse Electric Corporation Vice-President Francis P. Cotter, the company expressed its concern that the Administration policy has relinquished the United States' "major position" in the export of nuclear reactors. The statement, delivered to the Senate Committee on Governmental affairs, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and the Committee on Foreign Relations, is excerpted here:*

In view of the imminent Foreign Relations Committee action on S.897, "The Nuclear Nonproliferation Act of 1977," without further hearings, Westinghouse feels impelled to give you our views and to express our concerns...

Westinghouse has had a major position as an exporter of nuclear power reactors to the world market. A few years ago, we and other American reactor exporters held a dominant position (90 percent of all exports until 1972) — a reflection of our experience and technological leadership, and of our government's belief in the contribution nuclear power could make in an energy-short world.

We have viewed with deep concern the dramatic decline in U.S. nuclear reactor export sales in recent years. Other countries have become strong competitors, and indeed they have now captured the majority of the world market. As a case in point, we have not secured a new export reactor order in the last 18 months.

Several factors have influenced this dramatic shift away from U.S. dominance of the international market, but by far the most decisive has been the uncertainty which has developed as a result of United States nonproliferation and nuclear export policies — an uncertainty which has been produced by a series of unilateral policy shifts and which has created grave doubt world-wide about the reliability of the United States as a nuclear supplier... A de facto moratorium on sales of U.S. nuclear reactors abroad, however unintentional or unintended, is now in effect...

Will we pass legislation which, based on a policy of denying nuclear export to others, creates a world environment in which we have in effect denied ourselves the opportunity to be an active participant in world nuclear commerce? We believe that this would be the consequence of passage of S.897 in its present form, and we feel that the reaction of the world nuclear market and the expressed attitudes of other nations... reinforces and confirms this conclusion...

... Once the United States is out of the world market, getting back in is not simply a matter of passing remedial legislation. It requires a large overseas operation and an intricate complex of continuing customer relationships to simply compete in the market; once these are lost, they are not easily regained...