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Commissioner, Michigan Public Service Commission

NWSC

Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition

DATE: March 27, 2012
TO: Congressional Offices
FROM: Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition
RE: Call for action toward used fuel removal

The Federal Government should act now to meet its obligation to promptly remove used nuclear fuel from reactor sites in our states. Yucca Mountain remains the law of the land, and we acknowledge that it is before the court. Given that context, the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition seeks your assistance with the following:

- *Funding Reform.* The Administration, with Congressional support, needs to fix the funding for the nuclear waste program, consistent with the recommendations by the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future (BRC).
- *Restoration of Regional Transportation Group Funding.* The Department of Energy (DOE) should be directed to reinstate funding to regional transportation groups that facilitate communication between the federal government and state officials about federal nuclear waste shipments. This work is necessary regardless of the destination of the used fuel and should be supported at historic levels (prior to the elimination of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management).
- *Timely DOE Action Plan.* DOE should be held accountable to deliver an Action Plan by July 26, 2012, that reflects a sense of urgency and takes ownership for the country's high-level radioactive waste program.

Your leadership is needed to advance these critical nuclear waste program reforms. Please let us know if you would like to discuss further.

The Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition is an ad hoc organization representing the collective interests of state utility regulators, state attorneys general, consumer advocates, electric utilities, and associate members, on nuclear waste policy matters. NWSC's primary focus is to protect ratepayer payments into the Nuclear Waste Fund and to support the removal and ultimate disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste currently stranded at some 125 commercial, defense, research, and decommissioned sites in 39 states. For more information, please contact Katrina McMurrian, the NWSC Executive Director, at the number or email address below.