

MARIA KORSNICK

President and Chief Executive Officer

1201 F Street NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20004
P: 202.739.8187
mgk@nei.org
nei.org



September 26, 2017

The Honorable Greg Walden
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Bobby Rush
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Walden, Ranking Member Pallone, Subcommittee Chairman Upton, and
Subcommittee Ranking Member Rush:

On behalf of the Nuclear Energy Institute, I am writing in support of H.R. 3053, the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2017. This is an important step to revitalize the federal used nuclear fuel program by helping to move the Yucca Mountain project forward while also providing the U.S. Department of Energy with clarifying authority to fund and develop consolidated interim storage facilities. This bill has garnered bipartisan support as demonstrated by the House Energy and Commerce Committee's 49-4 vote in favor of passage. NEI commends your leadership to achieve comprehensive solutions for used nuclear fuel management.

Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
September 26, 2017
Page 2

It is time for the federal government to meet its statutory and contractual obligations. Utilities and their electricity customers have done their part. They have paid more than \$40 billion into the Nuclear Waste Fund. In addition, taxpayers have been saddled with the federal government's inaction, with more than \$6 billion in damages having already been paid from the Judgment Fund and billions more in liability continuing to mount absent real progress to reform the program.

The lack of a strong used fuel management program also has affected public support of nuclear power for far too long. This is unfortunate as the overwhelming scientific evidence demonstrates that used nuclear fuel can be and has been managed safely.

Passage of the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2017 would help place the federal government on a path to fulfill its responsibilities and to unburden taxpayers of the ever-mounting liability by establishing a durable program for managing used nuclear fuel.

The nuclear industry applauds the dedicated bipartisan work that took place to tackle this complex problem and pass the bill out of committee. We hope to see the legislation swiftly pass the House.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maria Korsnick". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Maria Korsnick