



May 9, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives
1233 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives
233 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan, Leader Pelosi and all U.S. Representatives:

On behalf of America's electricity generators, we are writing in support of H.R. 3053, the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2018. 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. We commend this bipartisan leadership for seeking comprehensive solutions for used nuclear fuel management.

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 2018 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.

We applaud the dedicated bipartisan work that took place to tackle this complex problem and pass the bill out of committee. We welcome consideration of H.R. 3053 on the House floor and support its passage.

Sincerely,

Sue Kelly
President and CEO
American Public Power
Association

Tom Kuhn
President
Edison Electric Institute

Jim Matheson
Chief Executive Officer
National Rural Electric
Cooperative Association

Maria Korsnick
President and CEO
Nuclear Energy
Institute