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"Rau, Paul R." <paul.rau@exeloncorp.com> on 10/15/2001 08:25:34 AM

To: "ymp_sr@ymp.gov" <ymp_sr@ymp.gov>
cc:

Subject: Yucca Mountain Site Approval

Part of Records Package / Supplement / Correction

October 14, 2001

Ms. Carol Hanlon
S&ER Products Manager
U. S. Department of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
P.O. Box 30307 M/S 025
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0707

Dear Ms. Hanlon:

I am writing to ask that the Department of Energy recommend to President George Bush that the site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada be designated the national repository for high-level radioactive waste and spent fuel.

Many years of effort have been spent on siting a national disposal facility and the Department has identified a suitable location. Storing high-level radioactive waste at one location is the best option rather than continuing to accumulate spent nuclear fuel at more than 70 sites throughout the nation. This is even more important due to recent international terrorist activity in the United States

The nuclear industry has been handling, storing and transporting spent nuclear fuel for years and the containers used for these purposes have been designed and built to specifications that can withstand extreme conditions. These containers have been put through exhaustive testing and have an outstanding record of safety and performance. The transport of military or other higher enriched uranium products does not get the scrutiny that commercial spent fuel does. Commercial spent fuel does not pose as big of a threat to the general public when transported using approved containers and we must move to consolidate all spent fuel to one common location.

The National Academy of Sciences recently affirmed that the geologic disposal is the only scientifically and technically credible solution to the high-level radioactive waste storage issue. The scientific evidence concludes that Yucca Mountain meets or exceeds the criteria for this type of facility.

For these reasons, I urge the Department to recommend the Yucca Mountain site to the President.

Sincerely,

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