



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3605

June 4, 2021

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Chairwoman
House Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development, and Related Agencies
Washington, D.C, 20515

The Honorable Mike Simpson
Ranking Member
House Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development, and Related Agencies
Washington, D.C, 20515

Dear Chairwoman Kaptur and Ranking Member Simpson:

As you begin work on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill, we strongly urge you to provide adequate funding from the Nuclear Waste Fund for permanent nuclear waste disposal, specifically the Department of Energy and Nuclear Regulatory Commission's licensing activities pursuant to the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. We applaud your \$7.5 million Nuclear Waste Fund appropriation as part of last year's funding bill. That money is a critical step to reconstitute the capabilities to meet the Federal government's legal and moral obligation to dispose of our nation's spent nuclear fuel.

Many of us write as members who have spent nuclear fuel (SNF) and/or high-level radioactive waste (HLW) in, or near, our districts. SNF and HLW need to be relocated to a permanent repository, which will be secure, safe, and reliable. Appropriating the necessary funds to complete licensing and other activities will allow us to ensure safety to American communities. For reference, the FY20 budget proposal included a request for over \$100 million dollars.

Congress previously established a strategy and funding mechanism in order to manage safe disposal, but due to the lack of further congressional action, these efforts have gone unfinished for decades. In a bipartisan effort, the 115th House of Representatives advanced legislation, by a 340-72 vote, which would have advanced both permanent disposal and interim storage sites. Many of us also support efforts to create interim storage facilities for spent fuel. However, we cannot abandon the need for a permanent disposal facility. Congress must appropriate the funds to fulfill the promise to communities that deserve safety and to ratepayers who have been paying fees for over 30 years in order to properly dispose of SNF.

We urge your support as we work towards a solution to our country's nuclear waste management challenges and appreciate your consideration

Sincerely,



Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Scott Peters
Member of Congress



William R. Timmons, IV
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



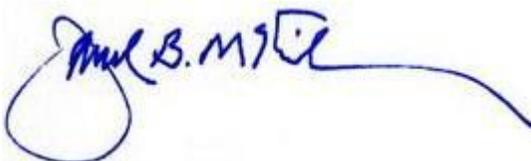
Rick W. Allen
Member of Congress



Fred Upton
Member of Congress



Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress



David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress