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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-1315

July 12, 2018

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The Honorable Dina Titus
Member of Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
2464 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Titus:

Thank you for your recent letter. We have had many spirited interactions about the path forward for our nation's nuclear waste management policy. In the 114th and 115th Congresses, you have testified about this policy before the Committee on Energy and Commerce twice on behalf of your constituents and we have had many debates on the floor of the House of Representatives. I appreciate your ongoing interest in this issue.

As you note, I am participating in an upcoming trip to Nevada, and the activities will include a tour of the Yucca Mountain site. We will be accompanied by Department of Energy (DOE) staff, as is customary for Congressional trips which visit DOE sites. I value engagement with all stakeholders interested in a constructive conversation to advance a bipartisan, national solution, as demonstrated in passage of H.R. 3053 in the House of Representatives earlier this year.

You may be aware that I have previously invited Governor Sandoval to represent the State of Nevada's position before Congress with respect to the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. Governor Sandoval declined the invitation and, although I've had many conversations with Nevada county representatives, state agencies have not responded to invitations to discuss these matters.

On July 10, I welcomed a request from your colleague Representative Kihuen to join the site visit and looked forward to his participation. Unfortunately, his schedule will no longer enable him to tour the facility located in his Congressional district. Nevertheless, if you would like to join us, I will do my best to accommodate your participation as well. I am sure you would find the interaction with DOE experts informative.

The scientific and technical issues you reference in your letter will be appropriately addressed as part of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's formal adjudication of the Yucca Mountain License Application. Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'JS', is written over the printed name and title.

JOHN SHIMKUS
Member of Congress

Cc: Governor Brian Sandoval
Representative Amodei
Representative Rosen
Representative Kihuen