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October 22, 2002

Dr. Michael L. Corradini
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board
2300 Clarendon Boulevard
Suite 1300
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Dr. Corradini:

Many States have a vital interest in the planning and eventual shipment of high-level radioactive waste to the proposed permanent repository. There are numerous State organizations in hazardous materials, public safety and radiological control agencies of the various State governments who already have experience with previous waste shipments, including those made in the WIPP program.

We understand that the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board intends to become more involved with nuclear waste management, including transportation. When we learned that you were planning your initial meeting in Las Vegas in December, we wanted to see how States might attend and perhaps participate in the program. We understand the meeting has been postponed until the Spring. This should give us time to collaborate with your staff on the meeting goals and program.

Since the date is being revised, we would like to suggest you consider holding the meeting in a different location. We think there are numerous "transportation" States, such as Illinois and Ohio, that have more experience with management of radioactive materials transportation and are more centrally located for the other States, which also have a stake in the proposed transportation. If that is not possible for this meeting, perhaps a future meeting could be held in an Eastern or Midwestern State.

Thank you for your consideration. NARUC looks forward to helping plan safe transportation of spent nuclear fuel and other high-level radioactive waste to the future repository.

Sincerely,

Brian O'Connell, P.E.
Director
Nuclear Waste Program Office