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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20610-6150

March 11, 1991

Dr. Don U. Deere
Chairman
Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board
1100 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 910
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Dear Dr. Deere:

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources has scheduled an oversight hearing to receive testimony on the Department of Energy's civilian nuclear waste program. You are hereby requested to present testimony on behalf of the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board.

The Committee is very concerned about the inability of the Department of Energy to initiate site characterization activities at the Yucca Mountain site to date. When Congress enacted the 1987 amendments to the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, it was fully anticipated that an extensive site characterization program would be initiated at Yucca Mountain to assess the suitability of the site for a repository.

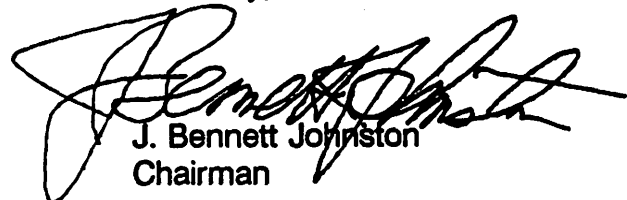
The Committee is interested in hearing from the Technical Review Board on the Department of Energy's readiness to initiate site characterization activities at Yucca Mountain. The Committee is also interested in the Board's view of whether there is any reason to disqualify the Yucca Mountain site at this time.

The hearing will be held on Thursday, March 21, 1991 at 9:30 a.m. in the Dirksen Senate Office Building, room SD-366, in Washington, D.C.

Please provide the Committee with 125 copies of your prepared testimony by the close of business March 19, 1991. Testimony should be delivered to room SD-364 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

If you have any questions concerning this request, please contact Mary Louise Wagner, of the Committee staff, at (202) 224-7569.

Sincerely,



J. Bennett Johnston
Chairman