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**U.S. House of Representatives**

**Committee on Commerce**

**Room 2125, Rayburn House Office Building**

**Washington, DC 20515-6115**

June 17, 2000

Dr. Deborah S. Knopman  
Board Member  
U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board  
2300 Clarendon Boulevard  
Suite 1300  
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Dr. Knopman:

I am writing to confirm the invitation for you to testify before the Subcommittee on Energy and Power on Friday, June 23, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 2123 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The subject of this hearing will be the status of the Department of Energy (DOE) program to develop a permanent geologic repository for spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste.

Your testimony should focus on the adequacy of DOE technical analyses and decision documents to support a site recommendation in 2001 and a subsequent licensing application. You should also discuss your Board's concerns with the design of the repository versus the uncertainties about the long-term performance of different designs.

Following are important details concerning the preparation and presentation of your testimony.

***The Form of Your Testimony.*** You are requested to submit a written statement which may be of any reasonable length and may contain supplemental materials; however, please be aware that the Committee cannot guarantee that supplemental material will be included in the printed hearing record. Your written statement should be typed, double spaced, and should include a one-page summary of the major points you wish to make. You will have an opportunity to present an oral summary of your testimony to the Subcommittee; to ensure sufficient time for Members to ask questions, your oral presentation should be limited to five minutes.

Pursuant to Rule 4(b)(1) of the Rules of the Commerce Committee (a copy of which is enclosed), I am requesting you to provide 75 copies of your written statement at least two working days in advance of your appearance. This will allow Members and staff the opportunity

to review your testimony. On the day of the hearing, please bring an additional 75 copies of your testimony to satisfy the anticipated public interest in this hearing.

Rule 4(b)(1) of the Committee Rules also requires that, if you have the technological capability, you should also submit a copy of your testimony in electronic format, i.e. on a computer disk. The Committee will post your testimony to the Committee Website (at "<http://www.house.gov/commerce>") after the hearing. This will increase public access to your testimony and reduce the Committee's printing costs. Please be aware that submission of your testimony in electronic form does not relieve you of the obligation to submit the requested number of printed copies of your testimony. Additional guidelines for submission of testimony in electronic format are enclosed.

Please send the electronic and printed copies of your testimony required two working days before the hearing to the attention of the Legislative Clerk for the Committee on Commerce in 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

***Publication of the Hearing Record.*** Rule XI, clause 2(e)(1)(A) of the Rules of the House requires the Committee to keep a written record of committee hearings which is a substantially verbatim account of remarks made during the proceedings, subject only to technical, grammatical, and typographical corrections. Your testimony, the transcript of the hearing, and any other material that the Subcommittee agrees to include in the hearing record (subject to space limitations) will be printed as a record of the hearing. You will receive a copy of the printed hearing record when it becomes available, usually 30 to 60 days after the date of the hearing.

If you have any questions concerning any aspect of your testimony, please contact Kevin Cook of the Commerce Committee staff at (202) 225-2927.

Sincerely,



Joe Barton  
Chairman

Subcommittee on Energy and Power

Attachments: (1) Electronic Format Guidelines  
(2) Rules for the Committee on Commerce