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U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Commerce
Room 2125, Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6115

February 26, 1999

JAMES E. DERDERIAN, CHIEF OF STAFF

Dr. Jared Cohon
Chairman
Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board
2300 Clarendon Boulevard
Suite 1300
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Dr. Cohon:

The Energy and Power Subcommittee held a hearing February 10, 1999, on H.R. 45, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1999. I am forwarding to you a list of additional questions on that topic that I received from Representative Edward J. Markey. Your responses will be entered into the hearing record in the same manner as your original testimony.

Your written responses to these questions would be appreciated on or before March 5, 1999. If you have any questions, please call Mr. Kevin Cook at (202) 225-2927. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,



Joe Barton

Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Power

JB:kc
Enclosure

Subcommittee on Energy and Power Follow Up Question For the Record H.R. 45, Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1999

Question for Dr. Jared Cohon:

1. In 1996 the Board stated that "There are no compelling technical reasons for moving commercial spent fuel to a centralized storage facility at this time," and suggested that "it makes technical, management, and fiscal sense to await the decision on the suitability of the Yucca Mountain site for repository development before beginning development of a federal centralized storage facility." Has anything changed to provide a compelling technical reason for centralized storage?