

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-2927
Minority (202) 225-3641

February 25, 2015

The Honorable Ernest Moniz
Secretary of Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Moniz:

We have learned that officials from the Department of Energy and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) have discussed the possibility of conducting activities at or near the Yucca Mountain site that are not related to the statutorily required uses for the site and adjacent lands.

We are concerned about the legal and policy implications of any activities that may in any way affect the adequacy of the site for its statutorily required use for high level waste and spent nuclear fuel disposal, including any activity that could affect the pace of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's consideration of the Yucca Mountain license application. To assist the committee's inquiry, please respond to the following questions by March 11, 2015:

1. What activities have been or are being proposed, planned, conducted, or facilitated by DOE, DTRA, or any other agency in the vicinity of the Yucca Mountain site?
2. What impacts could any such activities have on use of the site as a repository for high level waste and spent nuclear fuel disposal?

Also, please confirm by March 11 that DOE and DTRA have agreed to discontinue consideration of any planning, operations, or other activity that could impact the use of the site for its purposes outlined in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, as amended, and the Yucca Mountain Development Act of 2002.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this request. Should you have any questions, please contact David McCarthy or Charles Ingebretson of the Majority Committee staff at (202) 225-2927.


Sincerely,



Fred Upton
Chairman



John Shimkus
Chairman
Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy



Tim Murphy
Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Cc:

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr., Ranking Member

The Honorable Diana DeGette, Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

The Honorable Paul Tonko, Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy