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COMMITTEES
COMMITTEE ON RULES
ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-5000

May 25, 2017

Secretary Perry
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Perry:

Thank you for the positive step in the April 28, 2017 Secretarial Determination reducing uranium transfers for the remainder of calendar year 2017 and 2018.

We write to ask the Department of Energy (DOE) to initiate a comprehensive plan to negotiate a long-term solution to the “barter” system of transfers from the federal excess uranium inventory.

The DOE transfers or “bartering” to pay for the decommissioning of legacy sites have contributed to an oversupply of uranium in the world market at the expense of the domestic uranium industry and its workforce.

We are very concerned about the cumulative impact of DOE’s uranium transfers on the domestic industry. The DOE has a legal obligation under the USEC Privatization Act (P.L. 104-134, 42 U.S.C. 2297h et seq.) to ensure uranium transfers will not have an “adverse material impact on the domestic uranium mining, conversion, or enrichment industry.” As it stands, the United States now imports 94 percent of the uranium needed to power our nuclear reactors. We also recognize the importance of downblending surplus stocks of highly enriched uranium and ongoing decommissioning work. These obligations are precisely the reason Secretary Perry, Congress, uranium producers, and decommissioning and decontamination contractors must agree on a long-term solution.

With your leadership and the involvement of all stakeholders, we are confident we can find a workable, lasting solution to meeting DOE’s obligations while supporting our domestic uranium industry. We ask the DOE to initiate a plan of action moving forward with this request and offer our assistance to begin the process expeditiously.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to your prompt response.

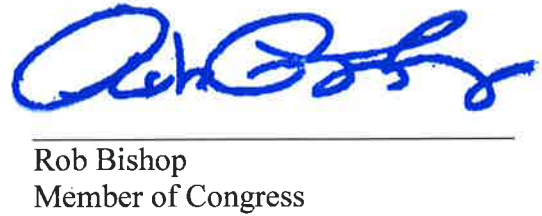
Sincerely,

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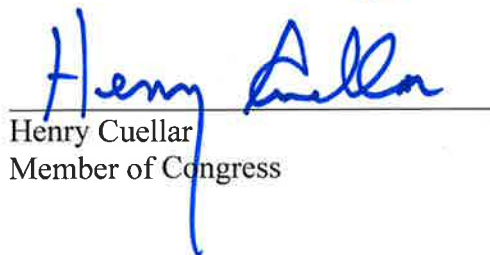

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