



The Honorable John Barrasso  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

March 17, 2017

Dear Chairman Barrasso:

Uranium Energy Corp would like to express our appreciation of your support of the uranium industry and convey our complete endorsement for the recently introduced Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act (S. 512 or NEIMA). We applaud your leadership on this important bipartisan legislation as well as your colleagues, Senators Sheldon Whitehouse, Jim Inhofe, Cory Booker, Mike Crapo, Deb Fischer, Shelly Moore Capito, Joe Manchin, Bob Casey, and Tammy Duckworth.

NEIMA is important for the future of the nuclear industry and will “facilitate the efficient, predictable, and affordable deployment of advanced nuclear reactor technologies.” Currently, nuclear power provides about 20 percent of this nation’s electricity and more than 60 percent of its clean-air energy. Low cost nuclear generation provides highly reliable 24-7 base load energy and stability to the electricity grid. This legislation will help the industry develop new technology containing the same and greater benefits with further enhancements to existing safety measures. Reforming the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) processes to become more transparent and cost efficient will go a long way in accomplishing these objectives.

We are also fully supportive of the bill’s language in Title II to modernize the NRC licensing activities for what are inherently low risk uranium recovery projects. Extending the duration of NRC license periods from 10 to 20 years deserves evaluation by the agency. Additionally, reforming the fee structure with the mandates of accountability and transparency are important features of the legislation that are overdue in the existing NRC fee recovery processes.

We also endorse the language in S.512 relating to the Department of Energy (DOE) and are aligned with the Uranium Producers of America (UPA) position. We support “greater transparency and accountability to the Department of Energy’s (DOE) management of the federal excess uranium inventory. As you know, DOE has a legal obligation to ensure uranium transfers will not have an adverse material impact on the domestic uranium mining, conversion, or enrichment industry. UPA is concerned DOE has failed to meet that obligation and continues to make uranium transfers without any meaningful public input. S. 512 will ensure stakeholders have a voice in the process and will place annual limits on the amount of DOE material that can enter the market, starting with the baseline of DOE’s current level of transfers.”

Thank you again for your continued support of the uranium industry and your leadership in this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amir Adnani", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Amir Adnani  
CEO, President, Director