



Ross ISR Uranium Mine  
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March 16, 2017

The Honorable John Barrasso  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso:

On behalf of Strata Energy, Inc., a Wyoming uranium mining company, I am writing in support of the Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act (S. 512). This bipartisan legislation will help ensure we have a stable supply of domestic uranium to power the U.S. fleet of nuclear reactors, which provide approximately 20% of the electricity in the United States.

Additionally, S. 512 contains important reforms to modernize the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) fee structure for uranium recovery facilities and directs the NRC to examine the feasibility of extending the duration of uranium recovery licenses from 10 to 20 years. I can say from first-hand experience that the opaque and convoluted way the NRC bills uranium producers like Strata make it impossible to budget for these expenditures. Also, the relative low risk of ISR projects warrants a review of the length of the operating license.

Finally, Strata Energy strongly supports the provisions in S. 512 requiring greater transparency and accountability to the Department of Energy's (DOE) management of the federal excess uranium inventory. DOE has turned a blind eye to their legal obligation to ensure uranium transfers will not have an adverse material impact on the domestic uranium mining, conversion, or enrichment industry. The U.S. Energy Information Administration reports that domestic uranium production in the US is the lowest in eleven years. Uranium prices are at historic lows and the DOE continues to assert there is no harm to the domestic industry as a result of their actions. This is absurd and 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. Something DOE has blatantly failed to do the last several years.

Thank you for allowing Strata Energy to comment on and support this badly needed legislation.

Sincerely,

Ralph Knode  
CEO, Strata Energy, Inc.