April 20, 2016

The Honorable James Inhofe  
Chairman  
U.S. Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Cory A. Booker  
U.S. Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse  
U.S. Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
U.S. Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Inhofe and Senators Booker, Whitehouse, and Crapo:

On behalf of Entergy Wholesale Commodities, I would like to thank you for introducing the Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act (S. 2795) and to express our support for this important bipartisan legislation. As the owner of a fleet of nuclear power plants, we appreciate your recognition of the important role nuclear power plays in meeting our nation’s electricity demands. It is critical that nuclear energy remains a viable part of our energy mix, and this legislation would help ensure that it does.

The economic challenges facing many of our nation’s nuclear plants are real. Unfortunately, we have experienced this first-hand as we announced the premature shutdowns of three of our plants due to uneconomic conditions. Closing these plants not only adversely impacts the individual workers and the economies of the local communities but also can adversely impact the environment by potentially leading to increased greenhouse gas emissions. Enactment of the Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act would provide greater transparency in the NRC budgeting process and ensure nuclear plant operators are paying for services they use. This transparency and structure to NRC fees can help nuclear licensees plan while also driving the agency toward greater efficiency as it continues to uphold its important role of ensuring public health and safety.

Thank you for recognizing the important role of nuclear power and for providing a path forward to encourage and support advanced reactor technologies. The development and deployment of advanced reactors, along with the continued operation of the existing plants, will benefit all Americans through the continued production of clean, reliable electricity.

Sincerely,

Bill Mohl