



WYOMING MINING ASSOCIATION

1401 Airport Parkway, Ste. 230 - Cheyenne, WY 82001 - (307)-635-0331

March 16, 2017

The Honorable John Barrasso
307 Dirksen Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso:

The Wyoming Mining Association (WMA) is a statewide trade organization that represents and advocates for 30 mining company members. WMA also represents 120 associate member companies, two railroads, one electricity co-op, and 180 individual members.

WMA wishes to convey our support of S.512, the "Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act." We certainly appreciate your leadership on this important legislation. We believe the bill will help ensure we have a stable supply of domestic uranium to power our nuclear reactors, which provide about 20% of the electricity generated in the United States.

In addition to helping jumpstart the advanced nuclear industry, the legislation 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, recognizing the low-risk nature of these projects.

We also strongly support the provisions in S. 512 to bring 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. WMA is concerned DOE has failed to meet that obligation and continues to make uranium transfers without any meaningful public input. The bill 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 for your kind attention and for your service to Wyoming.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Travis Deti'.

Travis Deti
Executive Director

A handwritten note in black ink that says 'THANKS FOR your work!' followed by the initials 'TD'.