

02-119

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS OF THE GENESEE
COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, GENESEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

LADY AND GENTLEMEN:

WHEREAS, this Board of Commissioners of Genesee County, Michigan, has received and approves the Michigan Association of Counties Board of Directors resolution (Adopted 2-19-02) (a copy of which is on file with the official records of the March 20, 2001 meeting of the Joint Public Works/Finance Committee of this Board), to wit:

WHEREAS, Over the past four decades, nuclear power has become a significant source for the nation's production of electricity. Michigan is among the majority of states that derive energy from nuclear plants; and

WHEREAS, Since the earliest days of nuclear power, the great dilemma associated with this technology is how to deal with the waste material that is produced. This high-level radioactive waste material demands exceptional care in all facets of its storage and disposal, including the transportation of this material; and

WHEREAS, In 1982, Congress passed the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. This legislation requires the federal government, through the U.S. Department of Energy, to build a facility for the permanent storage of high-level nuclear waste. This act, which was amended in 1987, includes a specific timetable to identify a suitable location and to establish the waste facility. The costs for this undertaking are to be paid from a fee that is assessed on all nuclear energy produced; and

WHEREAS, In accordance with the federal act, Michigan electric customers have paid \$405.8 million into this federal fund for construction of the federal waste facility; and

WHEREAS, There are serious concerns that the federal government is not complying with the timetables set forth in federal law. The U.S. Department of Energy, working with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission must not fail to meet its obligation as provided by law. There is too much at stake.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board of County Commissioners of Genesee County, Michigan, hereby calls upon Michigan's elected officials to support the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in their effort to establish a permanent repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, for high-level nuclear waste, and directs the Clerk of this Board to send a copy of this Resolution to the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and each of the members of Congress who represent the State of Michigan or any area thereof.

JOINT PUBLIC WORKS/FINANCE COMMITTEE

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