

July 16, 2002

Ms. Linda K. Sikkema, Program Principal  
National Conference of State Legislatures  
1560 Broadway, Suite 700  
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Ms. Sikkema:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), it is my pleasure to accept your invitation to participate in the panel session entitled, "The Road to Yucca Mountain" which will be hosted by the National Conference of State Legislatures on July 26, 2002, in Denver, Colorado. Mr. Martin J. Virgilio, Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, will represent the NRC on the panel. Mr. Virgilio is responsible for the agency's broad nuclear materials program including the safe storage and transportation of spent nuclear fuel and the high-level waste program which is responsible for the potential licensing of the geologic repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. As requested in your letter, we will describe the NRC's current regulatory program for the potential repository including the licensing process and associated transportation issues.

Please contact Mr. Virgilio at (301) 415-7800 or Ms. Janet Schlueter, Chief, High-Level Waste Branch at (301) 415-7264 with any questions or comments regarding our participation in the conference. Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide information on NRC's role in this important national program.

Sincerely,

**/RA/ Wkane for**

William D. Travers  
Executive Director  
for Operations

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