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AUTHOR: John Kane (NEI)
AFFILIATION: NEI
ADDRESSEE: James Walsh (REP)

SUBJECT: Provides commendation on leadership and oversight of EPA's role in dual regulation of NRC licensed facilities undergoing decommissioning

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NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

John E. Kane
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

November 12, 2002

The Honorable James T. Walsh
Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Veterans Affairs, HUD, and Independent Agencies
2351 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Walsh:

On behalf of the nuclear industry, I want to commend you and members of the House Appropriations Committee on your leadership and oversight of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) role in dual regulation of Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) licensed facilities undergoing decommissioning.

Despite the committee's continued direction over the past 4 years, the two agencies have been unable to resolve this issue. As recognized by the committee,¹ the agencies' most recent effort to do so, via a memorandum of understanding (MOU), falls short.

We strongly support the committee's direction to the agencies to revise and improve the MOU to be consistent with the previous guidance provided by the committee, but we believe that legislative action will ultimately be required to resolve this issue.

We look forward to working with you and members of the committee, along with members of the respective authorizing committees, to seek a legislative solution to the problem of dual regulation –which results in the unjustified waste of public and private resources without any substantive benefit to public health and safety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Kane', is written over the typed name.

John Kane

¹ House Report 107-740, Departments of Veteran's Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Bill, 2003.

