

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Date: <u>5.3/.03</u>

Dear Ms. Snyder:

Public health and safety concerns associated with transporting highlevel nuclear waste can best be addressed by minimizing shipments. Please take into account the checked items below as my comments on the Package Performance Study (PPS) draft test protocol:

NRC should upgrade cask licensing regulations to require full-scale physical testing of each cask design.

□ At the very least, the PPS should include testing of the General Electric IF-300 cask used by Progress Energy, the only utility currently shipping nuclear waste.

The PPS should include explosive testing to study cask response to a terrorist attack.

(signature) John Souter

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