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**COLORADO**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
STATE CAPITOL  
DENVER  
80203

July 9, 2007

Stephen J. Cohen, PG, Hydrogeologist  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Federal and State Materials and  
Environmental Management Programs  
Mailstop T7E18  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Re: Formal Invitation to Present a Colorado Training Session

Dear Mr. Cohen,

I am writing to formally invite you and staff from the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission to present a training session to Colorado legislators, state and local agency personnel and concerned citizens. I am in contact with Mr. Steve Tartton, at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment who I hope will help coordinate this event. The purpose of the training session would be to address issues associated with *in-situ* uranium recovery that policy makers, regulators, and citizens should be aware of as proposals for this type of mining are evaluated here in our state.

At least one company has indicated its intent to mine uranium in northern Larimer and Weld Counties using *in-situ* techniques. I and other Colorado legislators are deeply concerned and have many questions about the potential risks associated with the proposed *in-situ* methods of extracting, processing, and transporting uranium in this region. It is my hope that you and your staff can address these concerns and questions in an open discussion focused on your experience and expertise in this area.

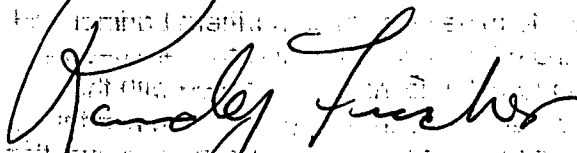
I am proposing that you or your staff plan to make a detailed presentation followed by an open question and answer session about *in-situ* uranium recovery at the Colorado State Capitol Building in Denver in mid- to late August to coincide with a meeting of other state regulatory agencies that I understand you may be attending in Denver around that time. I further propose holding this presentation in a committee hearing type format in one of the committee rooms at the Capitol in which other legislators, state and local agency representatives, and the public would be invited to participate.

I would request that, at a minimum, the following topics be covered during your presentation:

- General information about *in-situ* mining detailing the industry's safety record nation wide;
- A history of any accidental excursions that have occurred in other states detailing what actions were required to mitigate the effects of spills or excursions. (Is it, in fact, possible to remediate spills or excursions?);
- What information do informed citizens, policy makers, and regulatory agencies need to know in order to objectively assess human health and environmental risks and evaluate permit applications;
- What strategies would you recommend as a requirement for gathering and reporting baseline environmental conditions for evaluating geologic and hydro-geologic conditions prior to the onset of exploration or production mining;
- What criteria, guidelines, or laws need to be in place prior to the start of mining for establishing the state's authority to oversee, monitor, and enforce existing mining regulations and reclamation requirements;
- In addition to the risks associated with radio-nuclides in air and groundwater, what other possible contaminants, such as heavy metals and metalloids should Coloradans be concerned about as a consequence of any possible in situ mining operations;
- Any other issues you think are important that I have not covered here.

Thank you so much for your help in informing Coloradoans about these and other issues. I would appreciate your contacting me directly to schedule a date for this training session. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Best wishes,



Randy Fischer, State Representative  
Colorado House District 53