



CHAIRMAN

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 19, 2018

The Honorable Dean Heller
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Heller:

On behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter of May 8, 2018, regarding the location of the Yucca Mountain adjudicatory proceeding.

Please be assured that with respect to proceedings on the Yucca Mountain construction authorization application, the NRC intends to follow its longstanding practice that adjudicatory proceedings be held in the general area of the proposed facility to the extent practicable. Presiding Atomic Safety and Licensing Boards may hold limited portions of a proceeding at NRC headquarters in Rockville, MD, or by telephone or video conference. Such circumstances may, for instance, involve scheduling or case management matters or matters involving classified information or Safeguards Information.

At this time, the adjudication remains suspended. If the Commission were to receive funding from Congress and the proceeding were to resume, the Commission expects that the Board will conduct the proceeding consistent with the Commission's established practices, policies, and regulations, including with respect to the location of the proceeding.

Please feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Eugene Dacus, Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, at (301) 415-1776, if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "KS", written over a horizontal line.

Kristine L. Svinicki