

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 17, 2025

David A. Wright
Commission Chair
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Chairman Wright,

Recently, Utah's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) met with Commissioner Marzano of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to discuss the potential expansion of Utah's regulatory authority to include uranium conversion, enrichment, deconversion, and fuel fabrication.

Utah has already demonstrated a strong and consistent record as an Agreement State. The State currently oversees radioactive materials licensing, uranium recovery, and low-level radioactive waste disposal programs. In NRC's 2023 performance evaluation, Utah received the highest possible rating. This reflects not only the strength of the State's regulatory framework, but also the professionalism, rigor, and reliability of its oversight practices.

An expansion of Utah's authority is also supported by the depth of experience within the Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control. The Division's staff is trained in national standards, including Occupational Safety and Health Administration training and Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response training. These qualifications demonstrate the State's commitment to ensuring that personnel who engage with complex nuclear fuel cycle activities can do so safely and competently.

The State of Utah has also taken proactive steps to prepare for these additional responsibilities. Utah has allocated funding to allow the Division to hire additional personnel and establish a Utah Nuclear Regulatory Office. This investment shows both

readiness and long-term commitment to providing comprehensive oversight of activities across the nuclear fuel cycle. It also reflects a broader recognition within the State that expanded authority will provide regulatory clarity, strengthen public trust, and support responsible development of nuclear related industries.

Finally, Utah's request aligns with the national interest in strengthening domestic nuclear capacity. As the United States seeks to expand domestic energy production, secure supply chains, and reduce reliance on foreign sources for the nuclear fuel cycle, it is essential that states with proven regulatory capability be empowered to play a larger role. Utah has the technical expertise, institutional stability, and state level support needed to uphold the highest standards of safety while contributing to these national objectives.

For these reasons, we express our full support for expanding Utah's Agreement State status to include additional elements of the nuclear fuel cycle, beginning with the authority to regulate conversion facilities within the State. We respectfully request your consideration of Utah's proposal and would welcome a response regarding the next steps in this process.

Sincerely,



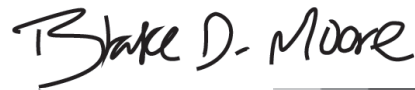
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Member of Congress



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John Curtis
United States Senator



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