Ms. Susan Fry  
Director's Office  
Environmental Improvement Division  
1790 St. Francis Drive  
4th Floor South - S4051  
Santa Fe, New Mexico  87501  

Dear Ms. Fry:

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter sent by Governor Bryan to the chairman and individual members of the Energy and Environment Subcommittee of the House Interior Committee regarding Representative Vucanovich's amendment to the proposed Price-Anderson legislation on establishing liability for the high-level nuclear waste program.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Loux  
Director

RRL/gjb  
Enclosure
Morris Udall, Chairman
Committee on Energy and the Environment
235 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Udall:

The Energy and Environment Subcommittee of the House Interior Committee will mark-up legislation extending the Price-Anderson Act on November 19, 1985. Representative Barbara Vucanovich will offer an amendment dealing with the federal government's liability for the high-level nuclear waste program. I strongly endorse this Amendment and seek your support.

The Price-Anderson Act has, in the past, been limited to the issue of the liability of Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensees and Department of Energy contractors. However, it is now appropriate to address, in the same legislative context, the critical issue of the federal government's liability for the High-level Nuclear Waste Program.

The National Governors Association, the National Association of Attorneys General and the National Council of State Legislatures, as well as the Legislatures of Nevada and Washington State, have all resolved that the Congress should enact legislation declaring that the federal government would be wholly liable in the event of any injuries arising from the Nuclear Waste Program including the repository program and waste transportation. The proposed Amendment does just that. The Amendment would make any injured citizen's expectations for recovery identical to what their expectations would be if any private party was otherwise handling extremely hazardous materials.
November 12, 1985

I request your support of the Vucanovich Amendment, and would be happy to provide further information if requested.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

RICHARD H. BRYAN
Governor

RHB/sc