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TONEY ANAYA
GOVERNOR

July 7, 1986

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EID: LEGAL BUREAU

The Honorable Marilyn Lloyd, Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy Research and Production
Committee on Science and Technology
Room 2321, Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Lloyd:

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on H.R. 3653, the "Price-Anderson Amendments Act of 1985," now under consideration by your subcommittee. The State of New Mexico supports the amendment of the Act to cover management of nuclear waste and spent fuel facilities for the Department of Energy, and its contractors. The State also commends the changes to the Act which expand the definition of "public liability" to require compensation for those costs associated with precautionary evacuations in the event of a threat of a nuclear accident.

I wish to express particular appreciation for the efforts of Congressmen Richardson and Lujan in assuring coverage of the Price-Anderson Act to the storage, disposal or transportation of, or research and development on, spent nuclear fuel, high-level radioactive waste, or transuranic waste, activities authorized to be carried out under the Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP) here in New Mexico. As you are aware, WIPP is the nation's first deep geologic nuclear waste repository and is quite close to operational status. The State is acutely aware of the problems and potential hazards that this repository poses to all our citizens. Because the Department of Energy is managing the activities at the WIPP site and coordinating contractor operations, we welcome the clarification in the Interior Committee's bill which extends Price-Anderson Act coverage to both Department of Energy actions and the actions of its contractors. From a New Mexico perspective, Congressmen Richardson and Lujan's efforts to seek indemnification for our citizens from WIPP-related accidents represent an extremely important contribution to seeking a solution to the very real problem of nuclear waste disposal.

I appreciate your attention to the policy of the State of New Mexico. If you

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The Honorable Marilyn Lloyd, Chairman
July 7, 1986
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have further questions, please contact Ms. Denise D. Fort, Director of the
New Mexico Environmental Improvement Division at (505) 827-2850.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Toney Anaya".

TONEY ANAYA
Governor

TA:DF/si

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*H.R. 3653/85
 Denise Torie*

6/5/86

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June 18, 1986

Hon. Toney Anaya
 Governor
 State of New Mexico
 Sante Fe, NM 87503

Dear Mr. Anaya:

You recently responded to the Committee's Price-Anderson Act Inquiry with a statement on the Price-Anderson Act. Those general comments were most helpful to the Subcommittee in identifying the issues to be addressed.

The Committee on Science and Technology has now been referred H.R. 3653, "Price-Anderson Amendments Act of 1985" (enclosed) as reported from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. In view of the Committee's intent to mark up H.R. 3653, I would like to offer you the opportunity to submit specific comments on the reported version of this legislation for the Committee's consideration. If you desire to do so, I ask that your comments be provided no later than July 4, 1986.

Please direct any such comments to me at the Subcommittee address, Room B-374 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20515. Mr. Louis Ventre, Jr., Subcommittee Counsel, would be pleased to respond to any questions you may have regarding this letter. His telephone number is 202-225-2981.

Sincerely,



MARILYN LLOYD, Chairman
 Subcommittee on Energy
 Research and Production

ML/Vms
 Enclosure