

Secretary, The**2001-015920 7/5 P 12:23****Subject:** FW: Used Nuclear Fuel Disposal

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From: Judy Mellody [mailto:Cyrano5@ix.netcom.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 03, 2001 11:50 AM

To: Secretary, The

Subject: Used Nuclear Fuel Disposal

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2001 JUL -5 P 12:23

Judy Mellody
14157 W. Amelia Avenue
Goodyear, AZ 85338

July 3, 2001

Secretary Spencer Abraham
1000 Independence Ave SW
Forrestal Bldg 7A-257
Washington, DC 20585

Secretary Abraham:

Ensuring that our nation has an adequate supply of energy today and going forward must be a legislative priority. Keeping the nuclear power industry (which supplies 20 percent of the nation's electricity without emitting greenhouse gases and other harmful airborne pollutants) in the energy mix is essential.

One by one, U.S. nuclear plants are reaching capacity in the spent fuel pools and are having to use on-site dry storage. While this is a perfectly safe means to store spent fuel, it is a short-term solution to a long-term issue.

The U.S. needs a central repository for this waste. Yucca Mountain has been shown to be an ideal location for this repository. Public health and safety standards for Yucca Mountain must be based on sound science. Controversy over standards that lack scientific basis, as proposed under the previous administration, should not be permitted to stand in the way of a decision.

DOE must keep on schedule to ensure timely movement of used fuel from nuclear facilities around the country.

I urge you to make used nuclear fuel disposal one of your highest priorities.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Judy Mellody