

Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future

c/o U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20585

May 13, 2010

The Honorable Dr. Steven Chu
Secretary of Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Chu:

Thank you for your remarks to the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future at our inaugural meeting on March 25, 2010. Your guidance was both enlightening and invaluable as we establish a plan to fulfill the Commission's charter.

A significant portion of the Commission's first meeting was focused on how best to conduct a comprehensive review of policies for managing the back end of the nuclear fuel cycle and recommend a new plan. We determined that the Commission's work would be aided by the formation of three subcommittees to investigate and recommend answers to three major questions facing the Commission:

- *Reactor and Fuel Cycle Technology Subcommittee* – Will address the question: “Do technical alternatives to today's once-through fuel cycle offer sufficient promise to warrant serious consideration and R&D investment, and do these technologies hold significant potential to influence the way in which used fuel is stored and disposed?”
- *Transportation and Storage Subcommittee* – Will address the question: “Should the US change the way in which it is storing used nuclear fuel and high level waste while one or more final disposal locations are established?”
- *Disposal Subcommittee* – Will address the question: “How can the U.S. go about establishing one or more disposal sites for high-level nuclear wastes in a manner that is technically, politically and socially acceptable?”

The membership on the subcommittees will be designed to overlap to ensure the subcommittees do not operate in isolation from one another. Each subcommittee will also address a series of questions related to governance and institutional arrangements. The enclosure sets forth the proposed membership of each subcommittee.

As required by the Commission charter we respectfully request your approval to establish and populate the three subcommittees as described above.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee Hamilton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "H".

Lee Hamilton
Co-Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Scowcroft". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with a large initial "B" and "S".

Brent Scowcroft
Co-Chairman

cc: Tim Frazier, BRC DFO

Enclosure: Proposed Subcommittee membership

BRC Proposed Subcommittee Assignments

Reactor & Fuel Cycle Technology

Pete Domenici – Co-Chairman
Per Peterson – Co-Chairman
Al Carnesale
Susan Eisenhower
Allison Macfarlane
Richard Meserve
Ernie Moniz
Phil Sharp

Transportation & Storage

Richard Meserve – Co-Chairman
Phil Sharp – Co-Chairman
Mark Ayers
Vicky Bailey
Al Carnesale
Pete Domenici
Ernie Moniz
John Rowe

Disposal

Chuck Hagel – Co-Chairman
Jonathan Lash – Co-Chairman
Mark Ayers
Vicky Bailey
Susan Eisenhower
Allison Macfarlane
Per Peterson
John Rowe