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July 6, 2016

Honorable John Shimkus, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-6115

Re: Yucca Mountain Project

Dear Honorable Chairman Shimkus:

On behalf of Local 525 of the United Association of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters (“Local 525”) and our membership of 1,740 hardworking men and women, I am submitting this letter to express our strong support for the re-opening of the Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Repository project (“Yucca Mountain”). We support this project because it would produce critically needed jobs for our Local Union and the surrounding communities. We also want to stress that our members have the key skills and qualifications needed to make sure that this work is performed safely and to the highest quality standards possible.

The Yucca Mountain Project would provide tremendous assistance in addressing our need for jobs in Nevada and especially Nye County where the project is located. According to reports on this project, including those from the University of Nevada, it will create thousands of new construction jobs. These are jobs we desperately need. At present, our Local has some 680 members unemployed and this project would likely provide jobs to all of them.

Re-opening Yucca Mountain would also provide a boost to the local economy. Many workers in other trades need work like we do and this project could help us all a great deal. In addition to the construction jobs, a project of this type creates substantial “downstream” employment in other business sectors, such as supplies, lodging, etc. In fact, a 2003 study showed that Yucca Mountain contributed over \$100 million in disposable income each year to the state of Nevada, which benefits local businesses and of course creates great more jobs. Due to all these factors, Yucca Mountain would also generate

major tax revenue for our state and local governments, which will help support needed infrastructure projects, such as roads, bridges, water systems and school construction.

As I mentioned above, our Local Union stands ready, willing and able to assist in this project and we have the unique capabilities of ensuring it will be built correctly and safely. Our international union invests \$270 million per year in skill training to ensure our members have the highest qualifications in the industry to perform even the most demanding jobs. In addition, through our UA Standard for Safety Program, we maintain an unwavering commitment to the safety of both workers and the community, and through our UA Standard for Excellence and Lean Construction programs, we guarantee maximum quality and productivity on the job site.

In closing, we strongly support Yucca Mountain's re-opening because this project will benefit Nevada by producing critically needed jobs for workers, promote new business opportunities for local communities, and generate helpful tax revenue for Nevada. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,



Matthew R. Lydon