

ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE  
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115  
Majority (202) 225-2927  
Minority (202) 225-3641

May 23, 2017

Mr. Ward Sproat  
725 North Center Parkway; K-104  
Kennewick, WA 99336

Dear Mr. Sproat,

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Environment on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, to testify at the hearing entitled "H.R. \_\_\_\_, the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2017."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Wednesday, June 7, 2017. Your responses should be mailed to Elena Brennan, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to [Elena.Brennan@mail.house.gov](mailto:Elena.Brennan@mail.house.gov).

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



John Shimkus  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Environment

cc: The Honorable Paul Tonko, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Environment

Attachment

## **Attachment – Additional Questions for the Record**

### **The Honorable John Shimkus**

1. Your testimony noted that legislation should clarify the Department's authority under the Atomic Energy Act to use federal preemption if local authority attempts to block a shipment.
  - a. Would this preemption policy reduce or alter the safety requirements for nuclear fuel and waste shipments?
2. Section 602 of the Discussion Draft provides for a fixed-term appointment for the Director of DOE's Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management. How would this provision affect DOE's program management? Do you think five years is an appropriate length of time to provide continuity of leadership?