

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 19, 2013

The Honorable Ernest Moniz
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Moniz:

Thank you for your testimony in front of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on June 30, 2013 regarding the Nuclear Waste Administration Act of 2013. Your attendance allowed for an important conversation regarding the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility (MOX) at Savannah River Site (SRS) and the United States' commitment to the Plutonium Management and Disposition Agreement (PMDA) with Russia. We appreciate your commitment to visit SRS in the near future.

As you are aware, the President's Fiscal Year 2014 budget proposes significant cuts to the MOX program, which if enacted undermines America's ability to uphold the PMDA, abandons our international commitment to dispose of 68 metric tons of weapons grade plutonium, places additional burdens on the taxpayer that could reach over \$1 billion, and violates commitments made to the state of South Carolina.

In June, contractors at the MOX facility started to issue Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) notices to MOX employees that could eventually lead to hundreds of lost jobs. On August 9, 2013, the Aiken Standard reported the projected 500 layoffs at the MOX facility will cost \$42 million from the annual payroll in five local counties. There is no question the lost jobs and economic activity in the region due to cuts to the MOX program will have significant and far reaching consequences throughout all five impacted counties.

In addition to the MOX program, significant work in the area of nuclear materials management, which support U.S. national defense efforts and environmental management, including the disposition of 37 million gallons of radioactive liquid tank waste, is being performed at SRS. Unfortunately, many of these operations that are vital to the nation are being threatened by the current uncertain budget climate.

With this unfortunate news in mind, we would like to take this opportunity to extend an official invitation to visit SRS in person to see firsthand the critical programs underway at SRS that rely on support from the Department of Energy. This visit will give you an opportunity to gain a better appreciation of not only the work being done at SRS but also the site's significance to the surrounding communities, and provide vital insight to the Administration as we work together to

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achieve appropriate funding levels to complete the missions at SRS, which includes upholding the PMDA and following through on America's international commitments to dispose of weapons grade plutonium.

We look forward to your acceptance of this invitation and working to find a date suitable for your visit.

Sincerely,



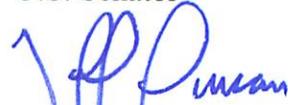
Tim Scott
U.S. Senator



Lindsey O. Graham
U.S. Senator



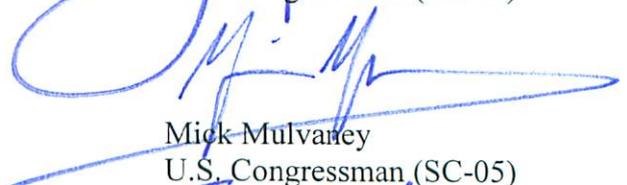
Joe Wilson
U.S. Congressman (SC-02)



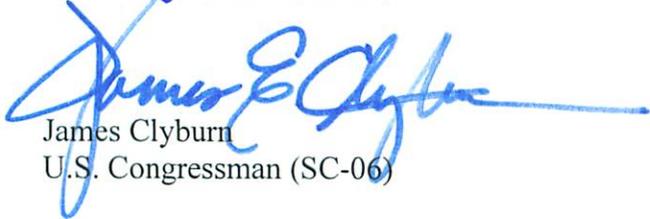
Jeff Duncan
U.S. Congressman (SC-03)



Trey Gowdy
U.S. Congressman (SC-04)



Mick Mulvaney
U.S. Congressman (SC-05)



James Clyburn
U.S. Congressman (SC-06)



Tom Rice
U.S. Congressman (SC-07)