



Southern States Energy Board
6325 Amherst Court
Norcross, Georgia 30002
(770) 242-7712



Western Interstate Energy Board
1515 Cleveland Place, Suite 200
Denver, Colorado 80202
(303) 573-8910



The Council of State Governments
Midwestern Office
641 E. Butterfield Road, Suite 401
Lombard, Illinois 60148-5651
(630) 810-0210

September 7, 2005

Paul Golan
Acting Director
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Golan:

We understand that the U.S. Department of Energy is beginning the process of updating its Radioactive Materials Transportation Practices Manual (DOE M 460.2-1). This Manual establishes standard transportation protocols that outline how DOE plans and executes offsite shipments of radioactive materials and waste, to include shipments of spent nuclear fuel and high-level waste under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act.

The Southern, Midwestern and Western states have worked together in recent months to identify their collective recommendations on how the Transportation Practices Manual should be applied to shipments under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. These recommendations are attached. We request that these comments be incorporated into the updated Transportation Practices Manual.

As you know, the original Transportation Practices Manual was developed through the Protocols Topic Group of the Transportation External Coordination Working Group. This Topic Group directly engaged the states and other stakeholders in working with DOE to develop a set of transportation practices that was agreeable to all parties. The Southern, Midwestern and Western states feel that the success of the Transportation Practices Manual is due in large part to this extensive stakeholder involvement. We have requested that DOE's Environmental Management program – which is leading the review of this document – re-establish the Protocols Topic Group to directly involve the states and other stakeholders in revising this important document.

Paul Golan
September 7, 2005
Page 2

If you have any questions about the states' expectations for Nuclear Waste Policy Act shipments, please contact one of us.

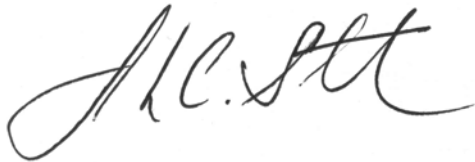
Sincerely,



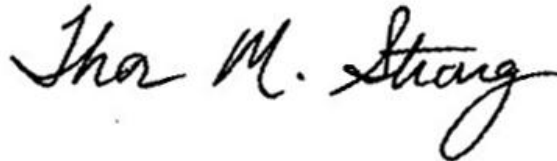
Michael Cash
Alabama Department of Public Health
and Chairman, SSEB Radioactive
Materials Transportation Committee



Ken Niles
Oregon Office of Energy and Co-Chair,
WIEB High-Level Radioactive Waste
Committee



Joseph Strolin
Nevada Agency for Nuclear Projects and
Co-Chair, WIEB High-Level Radioactive
Waste Committee



Thor Strong
Michigan Department of Environmental
Quality and Chair, CSG Midwestern
Radioactive Materials Transportation
Committee

Enclosure

cc: Frank Marcinowski
Gary Lanthrum
Dennis Ashworth
Judith Holm
Ella McNeil