



## NATIONAL CONFERENCE *of* STATE LEGISLATURES

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**Richard Moore**  
*Senator  
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*Executive Director*

June 30, 2011

Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Commissioner William D. Magwood, IV  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Commissioner Kristine L. Svinicki  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Commissioner William C. Ostendorff  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Commissioner George Apostolakis  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Jaczko and Commissioners Svinicki, Apostolakis, Magwood and Ostendorff:

The unfortunate events in Japan related to the impact of the tsunami on the Fukushima nuclear power plants have attracted policy-maker and general public attention. The National Conference of State Legislatures' (NCSL) Energy Supply Task Force members have spent two years identifying best practice options for states to meet their long-term energy requirements. While this year our Task Force is focused more directly on motor fuel issues, we continue to monitor electric supply issues such as the siting of new facilities and licensing approval for new generation technologies.

As policy makers we understand that prudence requires analysis of lessons learned from the Japanese experience and an assessment of similar risks at U.S. nuclear energy facilities. Many members of the Task Force have received extensive briefings on, and made visits to, nuclear plants in their states. We urge the federal government to ensure that a national analysis includes an assessment of how potential delays in permitting new generation technologies – nuclear, clean coal, solar – may adversely impact the nation's energy security, economy and quality of life.

With the American public pressing for lower carbon emissions from power plants; the Environmental Protection Agency moving to regulate such emissions; and the need for increased electric base load reliability as well as increasing renewable energy production, action should be taken to ensure that we maintain a robust fuel mix portfolio that includes nuclear power.

Members of the NCSL Energy Supply Task Force encourage the prudent and timely review of lessons learned from the events in Japanese and urge the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to ensure

**Denver**  
7700 East First Place  
Denver, Colorado 80230  
Phone 303.364.7700 Fax 303.364.7800

**Washington**  
444 North Capitol Street, N.W. Suite 515  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
Phone 202.624.5400 Fax 202.737.1069

Website [www.ncsl.org](http://www.ncsl.org)  
Email [info@ncsl.org](mailto:info@ncsl.org)

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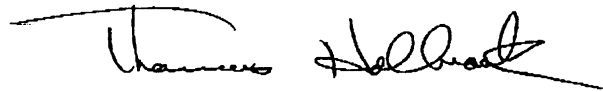
a the framework exists to move forward future reviews of licensing, siting and construction of new reactor designs and new nuclear energy facilities while ensuring public health and safety.

The members of the Task Force look forward to working with you in the future on these issues and would welcome an opportunity to meet with the NRC or commission staff. As leaders nationally on energy issues among the more than 7,300 state legislators, we are very interested in how partnerships between state and federal agencies can be mutually beneficial. We look forward to working with you to increase public and policy-maker education and ensure a reliable and affordable electric power supply for our nation now and into the future.

Sincerely,



Rep. Al Carlson  
Majority Leader,  
North Dakota House of Representatives  
Co-chair, NCSL Energy Supply Task Force



Rep. Tom Holbrook  
Chair, Environment and Energy Committee  
Illinois House of Representatives  
Co-chair, NCSL Energy Supply Task Force

Cc: Members of Congress  
Spiros C. Droggitis, Assoc. Dir. for Federal & External Affairs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission