



PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR

June 2, 2014

Dr. Peter B. Lyons
Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Dr. Lyons:

It has come to my attention that several recent news stories have suggested that Mississippi is interested in becoming an alternative to the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository. The State of Mississippi does not now, and will not so long as I am Governor, have any interest in hosting a geological storage facility for spent nuclear fuel. I understand that some organizations have had meetings with you to discuss the potential of Mississippi's serving as a long-term location, but the storage of spent nuclear fuel in Mississippi should be off the table at any Department of Energy discussions on the matter.

It would seem much more logical to place such a repository in a sparsely populated area such as the isolated areas of Nevada near Yucca Mountain. I encourage your agency to continue along this path or consider any other state, other than Mississippi, that may be on your list.

I have always been a strong supporter of nuclear energy and continue to believe that this form of energy is clean, reliable, and affordable. As you are aware, Entergy Corporation has the largest single unit nuclear power plant in the United States located in Port Gibson, Mississippi. We have a strong history of operating that plant, and the local population is supportive of the facility.

Mississippi has a distinguished record of working with the Department of Energy on a variety of programs in our state. We look forward to continuing that relationship in the future. If I can ever be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office. With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Phil Bryant".

Phil Bryant
Governor

PB/dm

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI • OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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