

January 10, 2007

The Honorable Phil Montgomery Chairman Special Committee on Nuclear Power c/o Wisconsin Legislative Council P.O. Box 2536 Madison, WI 53701-2536

Dear Chairman Montgomery:

Although I appreciate your request for policy options for consideration by the Special Committee on Nuclear Power, I believe it will be nearly impossible for committee members to reach consensus regarding policy options, given the diversity of views held by committee members. Therefore, I would like to recommend that the committee end its deliberations without making policy recommendations.

Regarding the principles, although I agreed that it may be useful for the committee to adopt such principles, after further review, I believe that the principles are redundant to many portions of Wisconsin's energy statutes. For example, Wis. Stat. §1.12, the so-called Energy Priorities Law, sets forth a priority list of options for meeting the demand for energy, starting with energy efficiency. Wis. Stat. §196.491(3) sets forth the criteria for approval of new power plants and transmission lines. In my opinion, the proposed principles are not only redundant to existing law, they do not provide enough substance to warrant further action.

Despite my reservations regarding policy options and principles, I do believe the members of the committee have agreed that energy issues must be addressed in the near future. My regret is that I have not been able to contribute proposals that would pass muster with committee members.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input.

Sincerely.

Charlie Higley

Executive Director