

CURTIS ESCHIELS
Chairman



STATE OF WASHINGTON
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

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July 16, 1986

TO: All Interested Persons:

Enclosed for your review is the draft report of the Near Term High-Level Nuclear Waste Transportation Review Group (Review Group) appointed by Governor Gardner in January 1986. The Review Group consisted of state agency representatives whose purpose was to review the plans, policies and procedures for the transportation of high-level radioactive materials into and through the state of Washington and its waters. A major objective of the Review Group was to execute, with the United States Department of Energy (USDOE), Principles of Understanding which would contain the terms and conditions for the shipment of high-level nuclear waste including spent nuclear fuel through the state. The Review Group met regularly during the six month period with representatives of federal and local governments.

The Review Group became a focal point for inquiry concerning the proposed movement of foreign spent fuel and expanded the review to address the many concerns raised by this event. They worked with members of USDOE responsible for these shipments and became an intermediary between citizen groups and USDOE. Information developed during the process substantiated the state's position that there was a need for USDOE to develop, as a public process, a comprehensive plan for the movement of these materials.

At the completion of the six month evaluation, the Review Group was unable to negotiate the Principles of Understanding with USDOE. It is unfortunate that an agreement was not forthcoming. It would have been a positive sign of a willingness on behalf of both parties to negotiate their differences and to agree upon a program of notification and inspection that is necessary now and will become more so.

This draft report to the Governor describes the Review Group's investigation, including their findings and conclusions. Your comments will be appreciated, and those which aid materially to an understanding of the report will be published with

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the final version. If errors in the draft report exist, they will be corrected. Please send your comments to the following address to arrive by August 1, 1986:

Executive Secretary
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
MS: PY-11
Olympia, WA 98504

I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to the many people who assisted with this project and to encourage everyone to continue the effort this project represents.

Sincerely,



Curtis Eschels
Chairman

CE:WLF:ab

Enclosure