

ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-2927
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March 22, 2012

The Honorable Steven Chu
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Chu:

We write to follow up on your testimony before a hearing of the Energy and Power Subcommittee this past March 8, 2012.

During that hearing, Chairman of the Environment and the Economy Subcommittee John Shimkus asked you whether the Department of Energy (DOE) had the resources to pursue the Yucca Mountain application before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), should the U.S. Court of Appeals (D.C. Circuit) order the application to be pursued. You replied that “if the federal court orders us to do so, we will do so.” When asked to describe the funding resources, you testified that you would provide to the Committee details of the resources that could be made available.

In connection with this request for resource information, we ask that you respond to the following by March 30, 2012:

1. What is the total funding that could be made available this current fiscal year for support of the NRC license application to construct a repository at Yucca Mountain?
 - a. Please provide details of the particular accounts in which these funds are held.
 - b. Please provide current uncosted obligations and current unobligated funds, including funds held in the Chief Financial Officer’s reserves, which could be made available for application support.

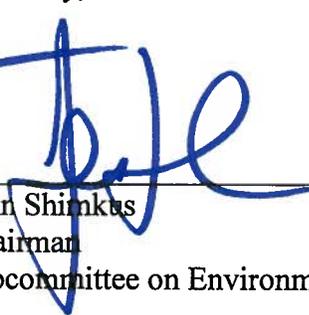
2. In DOE's January 2012 Report on Uncosted Balances for Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2010, the uncosted (or unspent) obligations available at the end of FY 2010, when DOE zeroed out its funding for the Yucca Mountain Program, amounted to a total of \$71.2 million (split between the Nuclear Waste Fund and Defense Nuclear Waste Disposal accounts).
 - a. What uncosted obligations in these accounts were available at the end of FY 2011 and are available at present in these accounts?
 - b. Explain, to the extent these amounts differ from those available at the end of FY 2010, how the funds were expended; what, if any, funds were deobligated; and what happened to any such deobligated funds?

Thank you for promptly attending to our requests. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Peter Spencer of the Majority Committee staff at (202) 225-2927.

Sincerely,



Fred Upton
Chairman



John Shimkus
Chairman
Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy

cc: The Honorable Henry A. Waxman, Ranking Member

The Honorable Gene Green, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy