

Submitter: Philip Ratcliff

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB2215

Jan. 31, 2023 marked a quarter-century since the U.S. Department of Energy first partially breached its Standard Contract with nuclear power industry owners of high-level radioactive waste (HLRW), commercial irradiated nuclear fuel. Federal courts have awarded those spent nuclear fuel title holders damages ever since, which are paid out from the U.S. Treasury's Judgement Fund using taxpayer dollars. Currently, \$2.2 million per day, or \$800 million per year, flow from taxpayer to nuclear industry, with no end in sight. This is supposed to compensate private owners for storage costs until DOE takes title, but so many corners are cut on wet pool and dry cask storage that most to all the funding, shockingly, represents pure profit.