November 25, 2014

Secretary Ernest Moniz
U.S. Department of Energy
Forrestal Building
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Moniz,

As you may know, the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology (SDSMT) is responding to the request for information pertaining to the Deep Borehole Field Test as described in DOE Solicitation Number: DE-SOL-0007705. I have previously supported efforts by SDSMT leadership and faculty to further expand research activities in shale and am supportive of conducting this research in South Dakota.

As I understand, the deep borehole field test will permit technology demonstration and scientific and engineering inquiry applicable to geothermal energy, fossil energy, nuclear waste disposal, and carbon sequestration but without any use of radioactive waste. I further understand that South Dakota’s geology offers many of the preferred guidelines for siting the field test, which can be capably supported by technical expertise within our state.

My support for the field test is predicated on the understanding that no nuclear material beyond conventional geophysical tools will be used in the conduct of these investigations and that our interest does not imply the state of South Dakota will accept nuclear waste. Any decision pertaining to storage of spent nuclear fuel must be based on results of rigorous scientific study and a favorable public vote by South Dakota citizens.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dennis Daugaard

P.S. I’m still hopeful you will find time to visit the Sanford Underground Research Facility sometime soon!

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TODAY'S DATE: 11/25/2014

PAGES (including cover sheet): 2

TO: Secretary Ernest Moniz, US Department of Energy

RE: Deep Borehole Field Test/South Dakota School of Mines & Technology

FROM: Governor Dennis Daugaard/Nila Novotny

Special Instructions:

Original being mailed: Yes