

# INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

LOCAL No. 49, 49A, 49B, 49C, 49D, 49E, 49L  
MINNESOTA • NORTH DAKOTA • SOUTH DAKOTA

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March 24, 2022

Dear Chair Senjem,

Thank you for holding these important and timely hearings on advanced nuclear technology.

The International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49 (IUOE Local 49) represents over 14,000 Operating Engineers and their families across the state of Minnesota. Our members include heavy equipment operators and mechanics, along with stationary engineers. Many of them make their living building and maintaining the state's energy infrastructure.

As a union, our members work on a wide range of energy infrastructure. This includes existing nuclear, natural gas and coal facilities, but also new wind and solar. As our energy system transitions towards lower-carbon resources it is critical that the system remain reliable and affordable for customers, along with providing good paying jobs for workers.

Advanced nuclear technology provides the potential opportunity to do just that. Across the country we are seeing companies, states and communities looking to take advantage of advanced nuclear power technologies. We are also witnessing states revisiting and repealing outdated laws that prohibit or limit the development of new nuclear power facilities.

Unless steps are taken to change the moratorium on new nuclear power, Minnesota communities, workers, and consumers will not be able to take advantage of advanced nuclear power. For that reason, IUOE Local 49 supports SF 225, SF 4082 and SF 4163. These bills will help put Minnesota on a level playing field with other states as we continue to build our future energy system.

Respectfully,

Jason George  
Business Manager  
International Union of Operating Engineers  
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