



Dear Chair Frentz and Members of the Senate Energy, Utilities, Environment, and Climate Committee,

As labor organizations we write to express our support for SF3120, a proposal to require the Department of Commerce to study advanced nuclear energy technology and the potential benefits, costs and impacts on Minnesota.

As Minnesota seeks to meet the 100% by 2040 requirement, it is critical that we are examining all forms of technology that can help us achieve that goal while maintaining reliability. While wind and solar can be beneficial electric generating resources, they remain variable and must be backed up by a firm resource. This will become increasingly important as Minnesota grows its electric load through the adoption of electric vehicles and electrified home heating.

Nuclear power plants have provided safe, reliable, and carbon free energy in the state of Minnesota and across the country for over 50 years. They employ highly skilled local workers for both operations and maintenance. With a number of advanced nuclear designs under consideration across the country, now is the time for our state to take a hard look at the ways that these technologies can help us decarbonize our electric system, as well as other applications like heavy industry.

Thank you Senator Mathews for bringing forward this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

John Pollard, Political Director, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49

Richard Kolodziejski, Public Affairs Director, North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters