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July 11, 2006

The Honorable George W. Bush  
President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 2050

Dear Mr. President:

As you prepare for the upcoming G-8 Summit in St. Petersburg, various reports have emerged indicating that you will soon begin negotiations on a civilian nuclear cooperation agreement with Russia. Various justifications for this dramatic policy reversal have been offered in the press, including allowing Russia to import United States-origin spent nuclear fuel.

Before you wade into these uncharted nuclear waters, I urge that you provide answers to the many unanswered questions raised by potential nuclear cooperation with Russia. For example, it will be important to know:

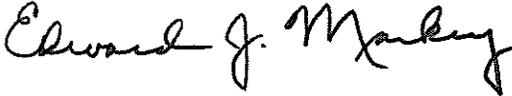
- What kind of safeguards would be applied to any U.S.-origin spent fuel Russia receives to ensure that it is not diverted for weapons purposes?
- Will Russia be granted full access to the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership and Gen IV advanced reactor programs, and if so, what are the proliferation and security implications of allowing such access?
- Will Russia agree to obtain prior U.S. consent for any re-exports or retransfers of U.S.-origin nuclear material or technology?
- Will Russia comply with the requirements of U.S. law that bar re-exports or retransfers of U.S.-origin nuclear materials or technologies to countries on the list of state sponsors of terrorism?
- Will the U.S. have a right of return in the event of Russian violations of any nuclear cooperation agreement?
- Will the Bush administration allow Russia to reprocess American-origin fuel?
- What guarantees would we have that Russia will get serious about stopping Iran's nuclear program in return for this multi-billion dollar gift?

Unless Russia agrees to strengthen security over its nuclear materials, guarantee that it will not reprocess the spent fuel it receives and remove plutonium, and most importantly

get serious about stopping the Iranian nuclear program, then a nuclear cooperation deal with Russia is untimely and dangerous.

I look forward to your earliest reply.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward J. Markey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "E" and "M".

Edward J. Markey