

JOE MANCHIN III, West Virginia, *Chairman*

RON WYDEN, Oregon  
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington  
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont  
MARTIN HEINRICH, New Mexico  
MAZIE HIRONO, Hawaii  
ANGUS S. KING, JR., Maine  
CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO, Nevada  
MARK KELLY, Arizona  
JOHN W. HICKENLOOPER, Colorado

JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming  
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho  
MIKE LEE, Utah  
STEVE DAINES, Montana  
LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska  
JOHN HOEVEN, North Dakota  
JAMES LANKFORD, Oklahoma  
BILL CASSIDY, Louisiana  
CINDY HYDE-SMITH, Mississippi  
ROGER MARSHALL, Kansas

RENAE BLACK, STAFF DIRECTOR  
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL  
RICHARD M. RUSSELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR  
MATTHEW H. LEGGETT, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

[WWW.ENERGY.SENATE.GOV](http://WWW.ENERGY.SENATE.GOV)

December 13, 2022

The Honorable Joe Manchin III  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Manchin:

Thank you for working with me to address America's nuclear fuel security. The legislation we have developed is critical to ensuring America's nuclear reactors have a domestic fuel source.

I request that the Energy and Natural Resources Committee hold a hearing on high-assay, low-enriched uranium (HALEU) availability early next year. Addressing America's nuclear fuel supply chain vulnerabilities must be a top priority for our Committee in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress.

America lacks a comprehensive plan to ensure the availability of nuclear fuel for existing and advanced reactors. As a result, one advanced reactor developer, TerraPower, recently announced that it anticipates a schedule delay due to the anticipated lack of HALEU.

Even if we are ultimately successful with our end of year efforts to secure the necessary authorizations and appropriations for America's nuclear fuel security, it is imperative to hold an oversight hearing as soon as possible in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress to ensure DOE is expeditiously moving forward with its existing authorities and funding to make HALEU available for our nation's first class of advanced reactors.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

  
John Barrasso, M.D.  
Ranking Member