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March 13, 2025

**Minnesota House**

Energy Finance and Policy Committee  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

RE: HF 2002 Prohibition on issuing certificate of need for new nuclear power plant abolished

Dear Chair Swedzinski and Members of the Committee,

Citizens' Climate Lobby Minnesota (CCL MN) is a non-partisan, non-profit volunteer driven advocacy organization working to advance climate, clean energy and conservation solutions. I write today on behalf of our chapters and thousands of volunteers across Minnesota. In order to reduce emissions at the speed and scale required to protect our health, communities and the environment, CCL MN supports policies that allow all low-carbon energy technologies (bioenergy, geothermal, hydropower, nuclear, solar, wind, etc) to be considered fairly on their merits. Many experts believe that nuclear energy, a major source of carbon-free electricity in most advanced economies, will continue to play an important role in decarbonization, and CCL MN respects that expertise.

There are many reasons to lift Minnesota's nuclear moratorium including ensuring the grid we depend on remains affordable and reliable going forward. Nuclear energy can also provide clean heat for the building and industrial sectors where low-carbon energy options are limited. More importantly, lifting the moratorium today is taking action to help future generations of Minnesotans enjoy our four seasons, 10,000 lakes and the natural beauty we are blessed to share with one another. Lifting the moratorium can keep our communities clean, healthy and provide good paying jobs years into the future. In short, lifting the moratorium is good for all us that call Minnesota our home today, and for future generations.

Lifting the moratorium does not approve a specific project, but it does allow nuclear to be evaluated as an option. We acknowledge and support the need for continued discussions over safety and storage. We are holding similar conversations with our volunteer base to better understand perspectives on the moratorium and nuclear in general. The United States with controls and regulations in place has proven over the past 30 years that nuclear reactors are safe. It is time for the Minnesota Legislature to recognize the progress and potential of nuclear energy as a needed climate and clean energy solution by lifting the moratorium.

**“The science is clear: we cannot address climate change without nuclear power. Minnesota’s moratorium stands in the way of meaningful climate action and must be repealed if we’re serious about protecting future generations.”** –Dr. James Hanson, noted climate scientist and CCL advisory board member.

Sincerely,  
Greg Jason  
CCL MN Statewide Team Leader