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March 12, 2020

The Honorable Click Bishop  
Chair

Alaska Senate Community and Regional Affairs Committee  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI)<sup>1</sup> applauds the introduction of SB 194, which outlines key state considerations for bringing advanced nuclear technologies to the Alaska power grid of the near future. We expect that reliable, affordable and clean advanced reactors will be commercially available later this decade that could power cities or remote villages, military bases, or Alaska's other resource-development projects.

Specifically, this timely legislation provides a clear definition of advanced nuclear reactors – their operational capabilities, inherent safety characteristics and other features that make them an attractive option for Alaska. In addition, the bill establishes a state permitting process through the Alaska Department of Environment Conservation. This ensures an appropriate element of state oversight and control in addition to the existing federal regulatory procedures that are the world's gold standard.

SB 194 is a valuable complement to U.S. Senate Energy & Natural Resources Chair Lisa Murkowski's work at the national level to spur design and deployment of reliable, clean, carbon-free nuclear energy technologies.

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<sup>1</sup> NEI is responsible for establishing unified policy on behalf of its members relating to matters affecting the nuclear energy industry, including the regulatory aspects of generic operational and technical issues. NEI's members include entities licensed to operate commercial nuclear power plants on the United States, nuclear plant designers, major architect and engineering firms, fuel cycle facilities, nuclear materials licensees, and other organizations involved in the nuclear energy industry.

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NEI is strongly supportive of the Senator's work in Congress, which will help bring advanced nuclear technologies to your state, to the nation and the world.

SB 194 underscores the practical value of state and federal collaboration in achieving our energy and environmental goals. Nuclear industry innovators are eager to engage public officials at all levels of government to ensure that new technologies are put in place safely and efficiently.

We look forward to working with you and your staff to help usher in an advanced nuclear age.

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maria Korsnick". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a long, sweeping underline.

Maria Korsnick