## CINTAC Civil Nuclear Trade Advisory Committee

**CINTAC Letter Regarding the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation** 

November 12, 2019

The Honorable Wilbur L. Ross Secretary U.S. Department of Commerce 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On July 13, 2017 and May 17, 2018, the Civil Nuclear Trade Advisory Committee (CINTAC), as an advisor to you on the promotion of nuclear energy exports, wrote to you regarding the critical role played by financing in the development of nuclear energy projects around the world.

As members of the current CINTAC charter, we are writing to reiterate this message, which remains central to global market competition in the \$2 trillion nuclear energy arena and critical to the aspirations of developing countries for electrification. We ask for your leadership in addressing the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation's (DFC) Environmental and Social Policy Statement ("ESPS") that prohibits DFC support to nuclear energy projects, with some minor exceptions. This is in sharp contrast to the recent decision by the European Commission to include nuclear in their sustainable finance classification scheme.

As you know, the DFC's predecessor agency OPIC's support for the ENERGOATOM Spent Nuclear Fuel Project in Ukraine created hundreds of high-quality U.S. manufacturing jobs. Amending DFC's ESPS to allow support for nuclear energy projects, beyond the development of waste storage facilities, would provide even greater economic benefits to the U.S. and provide more opportunities for nations to seek energy independence in partnership with the U.S., as opposed to turning to Russia and China. Further to this point, attached is an October letter from the U.S. Senate to the DFC reiterating the point that in a global energy landscape in which we are competing with Russia and China for the future of nuclear leadership, our nation's premier development finance institution must encourage, not prohibit, the adoption of American technologies and safeguards.

We would like to encourage you to raise this issue with the DFC. Ideally, we would like you to introduce a resolution amending the ESPS to eliminate the nuclear prohibition.

This is all the more urgent in light of the fact that the BUILD Act (S.2463) reorganized OPIC and parts of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) into a new United States

International Development Finance Corporation as a re-energized catalyst for U.S. projects around the world. Elimination of the DFC's anti-nuclear energy provisions will send a critical signal that the U.S. is open for business and committed to American nuclear energy leadership.

We appreciate your efforts on behalf of these and other nuclear energy initiatives critical to continued U.S. leadership and look forward to your continuing view on issues of mutual importance to American civil nuclear exports.

Sincerely, on behalf of the members of CINTAC,

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Chris Colbert, Chairman

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Jeff Harper, Vice Chairman

Attachments List of CINTAC Members Senate Letter to CEO of U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (separate PDF)

## Civil Nuclear Trade Advisory Committee (CINTAC)

Alphabetical by first name

- 1) Art Wharton Vice President, Market Development, Studsvik Scandpower Inc.
- 2) Beverly Marshall Vice President, Governmental Affairs, Nuclear Energy Institute
- 3) Brandon Brooks Strategic Development Manager, General Atomics
- 4) Charles Goodnight President, Goodnight Consulting
- 5) Christopher Colbert Chief Strategy Officer, NuScale Power
- 6) Colin Austin Senior Vice President of International Business, EnergySolutions
- 7) Colleen Deegan Vice President, Bechtel Corporation
- 8) David Blee President & CEO, United States Nuclear Industry Council
- 9) David Sledzik Senior Vice President, Sales & Commercial Operations, Nuclear Plant Projects, GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy
- 10) Donald Hoffman President & CEO, EXCEL Services Corporation
- 11) Edward Kee CEO, Nuclear Economics Consulting Group
- 12) Gary Wolski Vice President, Nuclear Division, Curtiss-Wright
- 13) Glenn Neises Nuclear Director, Burns & McDonnell
- 14) Graham Cable Vice President, Global Growth & Strategy, Westinghouse Electric Company
- 15) H.M Hashemian President, Analysis and Measurement Services Corporation
- 16) Jarret Adams CEO, Full On Communications
- 17) Jay Brister Vice President, Business Development, AECOM
- 18) Jeffrey Harper Vice President, Strategy and Business Development, X Energy, LLC
- 19) John Bendo Business Development Manager, Power & Energy, ASME
- 20) Joseph Miller Director, Advanced Technology Programs, BWX Technologies, Inc.
- 21) Juan Subiry Vice President, Market and Product Strategy, NAC International
- 22) Kenneth L. Peddicord Director, Nuclear Power Institute, Texas A&M University
- 23) Larry Sanders Chief Executive Officer, Accelerant Technologies
- 24) Margaret Harding Principal, 4 Factor Consulting
- 25) Michael Whitehurst Director, Business Development, Centrus Energy Corp.
- 26) Mimi Limbach Managing Partner and President, Potomac Communications Group
- 27) Myron Kaczmarsky Senior Director, Holtec International
- 28) Neil Numark President, NUMARK Associates
- 29) Paul Amico Director, International Operations, Power Services Group, Jensen
- 30) Pete Gaillard Licensing Manager, Terrapower, LLC
- 31) Ralph Hunter Vice President, Exelon Corporation
- 32) Robert Coward Member, American Nuclear Society
- 33) Robert Kalantari President and CEO, Engineering, Planning and Management
- 34) Robert Sweeney President & CEO, IBEX Engineering Services, Inc.
- 35) Russell Neely Chief Operating Officer, Edlow International Company
- 36) Scott Singer Vice President, Chief Security and Information Officer, PAR Systems
- 37) Seth Grae President & CEO, Lightbridge Corporation
- 38) Woody Lawman Director of Sales, Navy and Nuclear Products, Flowserve Limitorque

## United States Senate WASHINGTON. DC 20510

October 24, 2019

The Honorable Adam Boehler Chief Executive Officer U.S. International Development Finance Corporation 1100 New York Avenue NW Washington, DC 20527

Dear Mr. Boehler:

The United States currently occupies a central position in the global energy system, and its highly dynamic and competitive environment requires sharpened tools of economic statecraft. We face a number of challenges and opportunities in the global energy arena. To remain competitive, the United States needs new strategic direction focused on long-term relationships within the nexus of raw commodities and infrastructure. The new U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) has the potential to play a critical role in this effort.

Another crucial objective, shared by the Administration, is the revival of U.S. civil nuclear capabilities. Russia and China are increasingly using nuclear reactors as a tool for geopolitical purposes, signing cooperation agreements and export deals that may mark the beginning of 100-year commercial and security relationships with developing countries. Instead of competing against Russia and China, The DFC's predecessor, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) maintained a "categorical prohibition" against supporting civil nuclear energy projects, effectively ceding the field to our rivals.

Such a policy sends a harmful signal that American primacy in the civil nuclear sector is waning. As you know, the prohibition stems from an internal Environmental and Social Policy Statement reaffirmed by OPIC as late as January 13, 2017, a mere week before the inauguration of President Trump. This policy must be rectified. In a global energy landscape in which we are competing with Russia and China for the future of nuclear leadership, our nation's premier development finance institution must encourage, not prohibit, the adoption of American technologies and safeguards. Advanced nuclear technologies that are right-sized for developing countries are under development in the U.S. and should be under consideration.

We encourage you to take all steps necessary to reverse OPIC's ban on civil nuclear energy and to ensure that the DFC will be free to pursue a genuinely strategic energy portfolio once it is established. Please share updates with our offices and staff. Sincerely,

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Lisa Murkowski United States Senator

Kevin Cramer United States Senator

Mike Crapo United States Senator

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Joe Manchin III United States Senator

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John Barrasso, MD United States Senator

Lindsey O. Graham United States Senator