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**CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

October 12, 2017

Dear Nuclear Science Week Attendee:

Every year, during the third week of October, the nation celebrates Nuclear Science Week.

And “celebrates” truly is the right word when one considers the nuclear energy industry’s invaluable – and too often underappreciated – contributions to our economy, environment, power grid and national security.

A primary topic of conversation during this year’s Nuclear Science Week is “Our New Energy Horizon.” That’s apropos as policymakers at the state and federal levels, industry, academia and our national laboratories determine how to meet a growing demand for energy while reducing carbon emissions, ensuring energy security and creating sustainable jobs that support families and communities.

I would encourage everyone who supports nuclear energy to participate in the events taking place across the nation.

And let us view this week as an opportunity to educate our friends and neighbors about the many benefits of nuclear energy technologies.

Let us make sure folks in our circles understand that nuclear energy – an American creation – provides the clean, 24-7 electricity that powers nearly 20 percent of this nation’s homes and hospitals, schools, factories, grocery stores and office buildings.

Let’s encourage science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education in our schools.

And let’s make sure our young people understand the many career opportunities available in STEM fields, including clean energy production, and the chance to earn a great living while serving their communities, states and nation.

I’m sorry to say that my duties here in Washington, D.C. will prevent me from attending the Nuclear Science Week events at Idaho National Laboratory, which is work with the Idaho American Nuclear Society to host the “Big Event” this year.

But I want to send my best wishes to the folks back in Idaho, and offer my sincere thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make this week a success across the nation.

That includes our many partners. The National Museum for Nuclear Science and History established and coordinates Nuclear Science week events around the world each year. The Idaho American Nuclear Society has been educating folks about the benefits of safe, secure and reliable nuclear energy for sixty years.

And I’d like to thank everyone who plans to attend a Nuclear Science Week event. I’m confident that you will walk away more knowledgeable and believing as I do, that American exceptionalism in the 21st century will be driven by nuclear energy.

Have a great week.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Simpson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mike Simpson
Member of Congress ID-02