October 10, 2019

Dear Members of the Air Conservation Commission:

Missouri Farm Bureau supports the proposed resolution calling for legislation to allow cost recovery during the construction of nuclear power plants. Policy adopted by members serving as voting delegates for county Farm Bureaus statewide at our organization’s annual meeting reads as follows:

We support the continued expansion of nuclear energy plants, including breeder reactors, as a source of needed energy with adequate safeguards to ensure their safe and environmentally sound use, with increased emphasis regarding the reprocessing of nuclear waste.

With the Missouri Public Service Commission overseeing the costs charged to rate payers, we support amending the Construction Work In Progress Law to allow cost recovery during construction of new power generation facilities in Missouri.

Released in October 2017, the Report to the President of the United States from the Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity highlighted the need for regulatory policy that both reflects nuclear energy’s potential and protects public safety: Boosting production of all sources of energy from natural gas, oil, coal, nuclear, and renewables is essential to America’s national security interest and rural America’s economy. The federal government must ensure a regulatory environment which can unleash this potential while keeping Americans safe and healthy.

Recently the US Department of Agriculture awarded loans to help finance electric infrastructure, including $17 million for generation system improvement at a nuclear plant in North Carolina.

We believe allowing cost recovery would position Missouri to be a leader in the drive to expand sources of domestic energy. We urge the Commission to adopt the proposed resolution. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Blake Hurst
President