

House, who admitted that he did the same thing? What about the keynote at the Republican National Convention admitting over the weekend that, sure, she did it? But this place is so partisan that you never hear any of that. Look, many individuals in our society have made mistakes, have done things they should not have done. We know more now than we knew then, true. So rather than attack one particular individual, as they did on this floor, or members of one particular party, as they did on this floor, let us get past it and let us work together.

TERRORISM

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, now, in the remainder of my remarks, I am going to talk about what I think we should be doing in a constructive way. The first thing I want to do is compliment Senator NUNN from Georgia for leading the fight on this floor to ensure that, in fact, we have a military presence at the Olympics—in plainclothes, but thousands and thousands of personnel are there. This Federal Government is supplying that. There was a fight on this floor, and 20 Senators thought it was wrong. I am glad that, in a bipartisan fashion, we prevailed, because that presence is needed and is important.

Second of all, I want to commend the President for his remarks, for bringing us together, for vowing, along with so many others on the Olympic committee, that the Olympics would continue in the face of this cowardly act, and for calling congressional leaders to the White House to fix the antiterrorism bill that we passed that we could not get support for in certain areas where we should have gotten support:

A provision increasing the statute of limitations for making bombs, sawed-off shotguns, and silencers. That happens to be a provision I authored, was passed in the Senate and dropped by the House. It is not the law of the land. The police sometimes need more time to go after people who make a bomb. We should fix that.

A provision requiring the placement of taggants on black and smokeless powder. We need to get that passed.

A provision prohibiting the dissemination of bombmaking instructions when the instructor knows that the information will be used for criminal purposes. We need to get that passed.

A provision that changed wiretapping authority so criminals cannot use modern technology to evade court-approved wiretaps.

A provision making terrorism an offense for which a wiretap can be authorized on an emergency basis. There is no reason that Republicans and Democrats cannot come together with the President and get that done immediately.

Mr. President, we could be taking more security measures at our airports. I keep focusing on the fact that this Congress gave the military \$12 billion more than the military asked for.

I think we have to be prepared to fight terrorism. It is a threat against our people. And if we took a small portion of that \$12 billion, we could put the most up-to-date scanners at every single airport in this country. If we took a portion of that money that the Pentagon did not want, we could make sure there are bomb-sniffing dogs at every airport where the airport asks for that kind of assistance. These are very effective tools. There is no reason why, in the greatest country in the world, the greatest democracy in the world, the strongest country in the world, we have airports that don't have those tools available to them, and we have a military that says, "You gave us \$12 billion too much." We can do it through the military budget—just make sure it is under civilian control. But we should act to do those things.

Mr. President, when I was in the House, I sat as the Chair of a subcommittee that oversaw the FAA, and then we saw problems that haven't been remedied. So there are things that we can do. Now, we know that Vice President GORE is heading a Presidential commission, and in 45 days we are going to have his report. I hope we will pull together. I hope we will not see the kinds of things we saw here on the Senate floor this morning. I hope we will pull together and do what it takes.

We know that the European Union countries have much stronger screening techniques than we have here. There is no reason that our people should not have that sense of confidence. Yes, it may take us 15 or 20 minutes more to get that flight off the ground. I don't know one individual in this U.S. Senate, be he or she a Republican or a Democrat, that would believe another 15 minutes would hurt them. Fifteen minutes is not going to hurt anybody.

In closing, Mr. President, I thank my colleagues for allowing me to address the U.S. Senate over the subject matter of the bill. But I hope we will all be moved to come together in a spirit of bipartisanship and set aside our partisan bickering, that we will work together, that we will send our sympathies as one to Alice Hawthorne's family, 44 years old, killed at the bombing, and to the Turkish cameraman, Melih Uzunyoz, who died from a heart attack while rushing to the scene; and, of course, to every single family member who lost people in the TWA crash.

I hope that we will come together and that we will do what it takes to take every step we can in a democratic society to guard against terrorism, be it terrorism from within our borders or terrorism from outside our borders. These are cowardly acts, and we should put a stop to them to the extent that we can within our democratic framework.

We can take the steps that I mentioned without giving up any of our freedom. We can take the steps that I

mentioned without spending too much. We have those resources in this country, and I urge us to work together. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1977

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 1958, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1959) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes.

The Senate continued with consideration of the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 5095

Mr. JOHNSTON. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to the McCain amendment, which would cut \$22 million from the Advanced Light Water Reactor Program.

Mr. President, there are a number of reasons not to cut this money. The clearest and simplest and most obvious and most unanswerable is this is the fifth year of a 5-year program, a program entered into at the behest of Congress with the Energy Policy Act of 1992 for which contracts have been made and it would cost more to terminate the program, Mr. President, than to continue the program.

This has been certified to by Assistant Secretary Terry Lash, who is Director of the Office of Nuclear Energy Science and Technology, in his letter to Honorable MICHAEL DOYLE of July 24, 1996, which was entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on July 24, and certifies the fact that termination costs in the program would be considerably more than the continuation of the program.

Moreover, the recoupment of cost by the Federal Government would be precluded, which would result in further lost revenue to the Federal Government of \$125 million according to Director Lash's Department of Energy office.

The reason for this is that, for example, with the AP-600, which is a Westinghouse reactor, the agreement requires that, upon the sale of the first reactor, they will have to repay the Department of Energy \$25 million, and \$4 million for each reactor thereafter sold.

The same thing is true with General Electric, which has already sold two reactors under this program to Taiwan for which there would be a required payment of \$3 million for those reactors. That obligation would presumably be canceled.

So, Mr. President, in order to make any nuclear demonstration, the McCain amendment would actually cost the Federal Government money without regard to whether or not you like the program. Whether you are antinuclear, or whatever, the fact of the matter is the Federal Government

would lose money under the McCain amendment. It is the fifth year of a 5-year program, and it is very close to fruition. All of the money that has been spent on this program, most of it private, would be lost if the program is not finished.

Why did the Congress see fit in 1992 to go into this program? Because the American nuclear program, from its inception I think, was not conceived in the way that it should have been in that each reactor which was built in America under this program was a one-of-a-kind reactor designed from the ground up as a separate reactor. Each had to be separately licensed. Each had to meet separate tests to determine whether design was sufficient.

We found, after Three Mile Island, that many of these designs were lacking and had to be redesigned. During the construction of many of these reactors after Three Mile Island in the mid-70's, those were the days of very high interest rates. Interest rates were well over double digits at the time. You had to undo that which was done and start all over again. For that reason, those reactors are very high cost, some running between 5 cents and 10 cents a kilowatt hour, several times the amount for which electricity can be generated today.

In order to remedy that situation, in the Energy Policy Act of 1992, we, first of all, remember, did nuclear licensing to provide for what we call the generic design and the generic licensing of a new reactor, so that you would be able to go in and separate the construction license from the design license and be able to rely upon the fact that your design was a valid and safe design at the time you commissioned your reactor project. We amended the licensing act in order to do that.

Also, as part of that, in tandem with that program, we entered into the Advanced Light Water Reactor Program, which was calculated to design a generic reactor so that each reactor of the time sought to be licensed would be the same reactor. Westinghouse has probably the lead design in this. It is called the AP-600. The AP-600 is unique for American reactors in two respects:

First, it would be, as I say, generically designed and generically licensed so that when you go to buy an AP-600, wherever you are in the world, it would be the same AP-600. It would be largely manufactured at the factory so that you do not have to do everything out at the site, and each one will be the same.

Second, Mr. President, and very importantly, it is what we call a passively safe reactor. It does not depend totally on pumps and sources of electricity and that sort of thing in order to provide coolant. So in case of a catastrophic failure, it is designed to have coolant which would automatically come down into the reactor and render it safe.

Nuclear plants, as the Chair well knows, are designed to have many redundant safety features so that you

have power lines coming in from two or three different places and generators on site so that in case one set of power lines goes out, another will be there. In the case of both of those or all three of those going out, then generators are designed to come on automatically.

But the AP-600, the advanced light water reactor, is designed to be passively safe so that even if everything else fails, in effect the coolant water will automatically come down into the reactor vessel and render it safe in case of the most unimaginable catastrophic event.

Now, Mr. President, we are very close to completing this program. The AP-600 was delayed not by the Department of Energy, not by Westinghouse but by the NRC in its licensing program which no one could control but the NRC. It is due to be finished in the next fiscal year, fiscal year 1997, and the money provided in this bill will complete the job.

The argument against this is apparently that no American utility at this point wants to buy one, and so therefore do not complete it and therefore we can be sure that no one is going to be able to buy one.

The fact is it is unlikely that any American utility in the next few years will build a new nuclear plant, and that is because natural gas is relatively cheap. It is because the technology of natural gas turbines has advanced so far so fast that it is now the cheapest way to generate electricity, and I do not expect a big coal plant to be built and I do not expect big solar plants to be built as far as the eye can see. But I do expect additional natural gas plants to be built. And that is in this country.

Mr. President, around the world, the situation is somewhat different. In China, for example, it has already commissioned some 6,000 megawatts of nuclear power. They really wanted American technology, and they have a very long and excellent relationship with Westinghouse, and I believe that the Chinese would purchase the AP-600. It will soon be licensed. It would be licensed in time for them to use the technology. But our Government prevents us from selling nuclear plants to China, this being an outgrowth of the Tiananmen Square incident in 1989. We expect that agreement with respect to nuclear power will be in the not too distant future. At least I hope that we would have an agreement with China for the furnishing of nuclear technology. In fact, the 6,000 megawatts have been ordered from Russia, from France and from Canada, all of which have technology which is inferior to American technology and I think is far inferior to the newest technology, that is, the AP-600.

The Chinese like the size of the AP-600—that is, 600 megawatts, a modular size. The Chinese have lots of dirty coal but virtually no natural gas and a huge population, a huge problem of SO₂, of global warming, of air pollu-

tion, and they believe that nuclear power is a very big part of their future, and that is why they have already commissioned some 6,000 megawatts. They have in future plans an additional, I believe it is, 11,000 megawatts for the first decade of the next century and a clear and strong commitment to nuclear power.

I must say for those in this country who feel strongly about global warming—and I do—I submit that this is the best solution to the problem of global warming, clearly the best solution for the problem of air pollution. If the economics are right, clearly the environment so far as China is concerned, as well as other nations on the Pacific rim, this is an excellent solution. Other countries are moving ahead, particularly in the Pacific, with nuclear power including Japan and Taiwan, South Korea. Of course, North Korea will soon be getting a reactor built and designed principally by the South Koreans adopting the original Westinghouse technology.

Mr. President, the point I am making is not that we are getting ready to sell a lot of these reactors in the United States. We are not. But on the Pacific rim they are moving forward; they have made the decision; they have made the commitments. And the question is, would you rather complete a 5-year program on which private industry has spent almost \$500 million to complete and get the good out of it to build the most technologically proficient, the safest reactor in the world which would then be available for sale to these foreign countries or would you rather terminate the program and subject the Government to greater damages than it would cost to spend on the \$22 million it takes to complete the program.

No one has answered that overwhelming argument of why you would want to terminate a program that is so close to finishing when it cost more to terminate than it does to complete the program.

One other thought. I believe the Federal Government needs to be true to its word and to its commitments just as individuals need to do that. And the reason is that if people are going to be encouraged and companies are going to be encouraged to do business with the Federal Government, to undertake research, to undertake the expenditure of large amounts of their own money, then they ought to have some assurance that the word of the Federal Government is good because to the extent that we terminate these projects—we terminated the SSC, we have terminated the other projects—then soon the reputation of the Federal Government will be such that no one will want to enter into the doing of business with it.

In the home State of the occupant of the chair, they are now seeking to enter into large contracts with private firms in order to clean up the mess at Hanford, in order to vitrify the waste

there and be able to store it. It is a private undertaking. They are being encouraged to bid and to have a competition and to do business with the Federal Government.

If we would adopt this amendment, it would make that kind of obligation and others like it less and less attractive to the private sector.

I repeat, the most overwhelming and most unanswerable part of this argument is that it costs more to terminate than it does to finish this obligation of the Federal Government, and we ought therefore to do it. In addition to the fact that the Federal Government would lose the profit which it would get from the sale of these reactors in the future as well as those already sold to Taiwan, and that the Federal Government and our country would lose a great opportunity to do business in the future.

I yield the floor.

Mr. DOMENICI addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. I know that Senator BUMPERS wants to offer an amendment and he is going to be very generous in the agreement on time.

I thank Senator JOHNSTON for his argument, and I wish to indicate very openly and publicly that I support his position. I do not believe we ought to kill this program when it is about finished. We ought to let it complete its remaining 1 year.

A couple things have not been said about the program. Obviously, the word subsidy is bantered around, but everyone should know that the advanced light water reactor program, first, is 90 percent complete.

Second, there is \$40 million in this entire appropriations bill to complete this project. When it is completed, that will complete a \$713 million advanced light water reactor program, of which \$270 million is the DOE and, get this, \$440 million is private industry funded. So for those who talk of a subsidy, we have \$440 million coming from the private sector, \$270 from DOE. This last \$40 million will complete the work and wrap the program up and dismantle it. So the subsidy is there, but the ratio is pretty heavily in favor of the private sector putting the money in.

I have looked at this. I understand what some of my colleagues are looking at. We are looking at this budget critically, but I am aware of the fact that we are not going to save any money by closing the program down now, and as a matter of fact we may throw away some real opportunities to have some really significant and new technology applied to nuclear reactors.

Whether we think we want any more nuclear reactors or not is not the whole issue. American companies build nuclear reactors for the world, and we are the world's leader in that. We will continue as the leader and probably sell many of these types of reactors in the world market. To the extent that China chooses to use them, it is a very,

very significantly appropriate environmental cleanup method, because if they do not use this, they use dirty coal, which they have in abundance. So, in a real sense we are being very, very irresponsible in closing down a program with 1 year left which has many qualities that will add to America's capability to employ our people and sell our products and at the same time help the world clean up some of the dirtiest environment around in some of the growing industrial areas of the world outside of our own country and Europe and the like.

So, for those who wonder about frugality, I would be for cutting any program of \$40 million I could take out of this bill, but this is not the one.

Mr. President, opponents of the ALWR Program have argued with great indignation against continuation of what is called a corporate subsidy. It is only fair to note that U.S. electric utility companies and the ALWR contractors have contributed \$3.50 for every \$1.00 of DOE funds spent on the program.

Most importantly, Mr. President, the ALWR Program is 90 percent complete. The modest funding contained in this bill is the last piece of Federal funding. It will complete the \$713 million ALWR Program, of which almost \$270 million is DOE funding the \$444 million is private industry funding.

Mr. President, may I assure my colleagues who are critical of the ALWR Program, that I am mindful of their point of view. And I would hope that their close examination of what the committee proposes to do in this bill will lead them to the conclusion which I myself have reached:

That is, the ALWR Program funding in the bill is the best and most effective way to close out the program successfully and with the highest return to the taxpayer for the hundreds of millions of dollars already spent. Conversely, failure to close out the ALWR Program in the way the committee recommends creates a colossal waste of the money already spent.

Mr. President, I believe prudence and thoughtfulness require support for the committee's position.

COMPLETION OF THE ALWR PROGRAM

Starting in 1990—design certification—and in 1993—first of a kind engineering—the ALWR represents a joint commitment by government and industry to develop a new generation of standardized, advanced reactors, coupled with a one step NRC licensing process for such designs.

In fulfilling the plan set out in the Energy Policy Act, both Congress and industry recognized that developing a new generation of reactors involved Government/regulatory risk as well as technological risk. While reactor manufacturers and the utility industry committed funds to develop the technology, the Government/regulatory risk with a new, untried licensing process was sufficiently significant to call on Government to share that risk and cost with the private sector.

The innovative, passively safe systems involved in this new generation of reactors are recognized as a world class development. As an example, 20 nations are involved in the AP600 program and extensive testing programs both in the United States and abroad have demonstrated that the passive safety systems will work as predicted by the design codes.

Congress directed that the program should be cost shared, with payback to the Federal Government from royalties on the sale of plants. To date \$713 million has been invested in the program, of which \$444 million—62 percent—has come from private industry. In addition, \$125 million of the DOE funding will be repaid as royalties on the sale of plants.

The program is 90 percent complete and will be completed with the modest funding provided by the \$40 million DOE fiscal year 1997 request. At the end of the design certification and first-of-a-kind engineering programs for the AP600, three new standardized American reactor designs will be ready for the market. This accomplishment will represent the only recent, successful completion of a major new energy design project to meet America's and the world's future energy needs. This could not have been accomplished without the shared commitment of government and the private sector to the Advanced Light Water Reactor Program.

Failure to provide the final year of funding and abandoning DOE's role before completing the final year would result in the complete loss of the \$713 million investment to date. The end goal of final design approval and design certification by the NRC would not be realized and the investment and years of effort wasted. Failure to complete would also be a clear signal that the United States no longer seeks to lead the world in developing standardized passively safe reactor designs for world wide application.

I ask unanimous consent some material, a list of seven common myths, and a letter from the chairman of the advanced reactor corp. be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

INVESTMENTS—THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1996— TOTAL ALWR PROGRAM

Design certification: DOE—\$188 million; Industry—\$305.7 million.

Foake: DOE—\$81.3 million; Industry—\$138.4 million.

Total program: DOE—\$269.3 million; Industry—\$444.1 million.

TOTAL—\$713.4 million.

DOE—37.7 percent.

Industry—62.3 percent.

SEVEN COMMON MYTHS REGARDING THE DOE ADVANCED LIGHT WATER REACTOR PROGRAM (Prepared by the U.S. Department of Energy, July 1996)

Myth 1.—The Program's Authorization under the Energy Policy Act of 1992 ends in FY 1996

Reality: The Energy Policy Act of 1992 (EPACT) limits the First-of-a-Kind Engineering (FOAKE) program to five years, states that no entity shall receive assistance for a period greater than 4 years, and limits total program funding to \$100 million. The EPACT became law in fiscal year 1993. Therefore, the five year limit will not be reached until FY 1998 and the four year "assistance" limit will not be reached until FY 1997. The Department is full authorized under the EPACT to apply funds to the FOAKE program in FY 1997.

Further, the Department has spent only about \$82 million on this program since it began in 1992. There have been significant increases in program cost, but these have been absorbed by industry. In any event, the Department is also fully authorized by the Atomic Energy Act to conduct nuclear energy research and development programs and the EPACT does not limit this authority.

Myth 2.—The FOAKE Program was to end in 1996 because the EPACT mandated that any nuclear designs developed in the program should receive certification in 1996

Reality: In 1992, the Department expected that both of the designs included in the FOAKE program—the Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) and the AP600—could be developed on schedules which would have achieved NRC certifications by the end of FY 1996. While the program was designed to lead to certification in FY 1996, the Department had no control over the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's certification process, which involved far more review and testing than the Commission anticipated in 1992 (most of the delays are associated with extra testing required to verify the performance of advanced safety systems). As a result of these delays, the Department expects certification of the ABWR by late FY 1996 and of the AP600 by FY 1998. The EPACT does not limit the Department's authority to conduct the program, but merely guided DOE's selection of technologies to assure that only near-term technologies would be included in the program.

Myth 3.—The EPACT Prohibits the industry from seeking export markets for ALWRs developed in the FOAKE program

Reality: The EPACT places no restrictions on U.S. industry's ability to compete in the international market. Further, the fact that U.S. vendors participating in the program are seeking overseas contracts to build ALWRs does not suggest that ALWRs will not be built in the U.S. In fact, since the market for new nuclear plants in the United States is not expected to materialize for another ten years, it is imperative that U.S. vendors win overseas orders if the U.S. capability to build new plants is to be preserved.

Myth 4.—The ALWR Program is Corporate Welfare

Reality: The Department's program is designed to apply a very limited allocation of federal funds to encourage U.S. industry to pursue R&D that is in the interest of the United States. The preservation of the nuclear energy option is vital to the future of energy diversity in this country. It is clear that the market in the United States for ALWRs will not materialize for at least another ten years. In this environment, U.S. industry could be forced to abandon the nuclear power plant market to heavily subsidized foreign industrial concerns. The future ability of U.S. industry to build new plants in this country could be lost.

To prevent this from occurring, the Department conduct a very modest program—the last commercial nuclear energy program conducted by the federal government—to work with industry to maintain the nuclear option for the next century. Since the ALWR program began in 1986, the Department has

conducted \$800 million in program activities with a taxpayer investment of only \$300 million over ten years.

Moreover, the Department receives reimbursements when technology developed by the FOAKE program is sold. For example, the federal government will receive approximately \$3 million from General Electric as a result of its sale of ABWRs to Taiwan (which, unlike the plants GE previously sold to Japan, are based on technology developed by DOE's program).

Myth 5.—There is no U.S. utility interest in building new ALWRs

Reality: The fact that the electric utility industry has provided hundreds of millions of dollars to conduct ALWR activities indicates that utility executives remain interested in the nuclear option. For obvious reason, no utility that is interested in placing ALWR orders in the future would be likely to indicate that interest publicly. However, recent discussions between DOE officials and electric utility chief executives have clearly indicated that U.S. utilities continue to see the nuclear option as viable. While the U.S. market for ALWRs is not expected to materialize for another decade, these utilities seek the Department's program as a critical step to assure that next-generation nuclear plant designs are available if they are needed.

Much has been said in recent months about a Washington International Energy Group survey of utility executives that indicates that 89% of utility CEOs would not consider ordering any new nuclear power plants. It is important to note that this survey received responses from only 397 of nearly 3600 U.S. electric utilities—and it is not clear that the respondents include the 44 utilities that currently own and operate nuclear power plants. The Department does not believe that this survey provides an accurate view of utility interest in new nuclear plants.

Myth 6: DOE is paying Nuclear Regulatory Commission fees that should be paid by industry.

Reality: No taxpayer dollars have been used to pay NRC fees. It is true, however, that NRC's increased review and testing requirements forced the program to perform additional technical work. While most of the extra work was funded by industry, part of the added cost was supported by the DOE ALWR program. The additional technical work represented an expansion in the work scope for the program, but is clearly the type of expenditure anticipated by the EPACT.

Myth 7: General Electric terminated its Simplified Boiling Water Reactor (SBWR) activities because there is no market for small plants. Similarly, there is no market for the Westinghouse-designed AP600.

Reality: While it is true that GE terminated its mid-sized SBWR project, it must be recognized that GE's market strategy is very focused on the east Asian market—particularly Japan. In many of these countries, land is a scarce resource and there is considerable incentive to build large plants with high power capacity. Other potential markets are less concerned with space and more interested in factors such as lower capital cost and lower complexity—attributes natural to mid-sized plants. These attributes are very attractive to U.S. utilities and others as well—currently 22 countries contribute funds and personnel to the AP600 program. The Department believes that this represents a significant international interest in advanced mid-sized nuclear power plants with passive safety systems.

ADVANCED REACTOR CORP.,

June 28, 1996.

Hon. NEIL ABERCROMBIE,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE ABERCROMBIE: On behalf of the member utilities of the Advanced Reactor Corporation, we urge you to support \$40 million for research and development on Advanced Light Water Reactors (ALWR) in the Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill for fiscal year 1997. The ALWR Program has an excellent record of achievement and is nearing accomplishment of its goal to open the option for future nuclear power electricity generation, as endorsed by the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has granted final design approval for the evolutionary ALWR designs and formal design certifications on both are awaiting formal resolution of NRC regulatory process issues. The first-of-a-kind engineering (FOAKE) portion of the ALWR program for the GE evolutionary advanced boiling water reactor will be essentially completed by certification and FOAKE for the new, midsize, passively-safe, pressurized water ALWR, the Westinghouse AP600.

The ALWR program is a sound investment continuing to build on the energy security and environmental benefits provided by current plants. Risk sharing of the investment and commercial interest are carefully balanced with industry paying about 62 percent of the total costs, coupled with subsequent pay-back provisions. For example, Westinghouse will pay back \$25 million of the Energy Department's contribution for design certification as a royalty on the sale of the first AP600. Additionally, all of the funds provided for FOAKE by both the utilities and the Energy Department will be paid back to each as royalties on sales of the AP600 by Westinghouse and by General Electric on sales of its Advanced Boiling Water Reactor.

Our companies entered the government partnership for the FOAKE portion of the ALWR program in February 1992. Later that year, Congress passed the Energy Policy Act of 1992, which reaffirmed the nation's commitment to nuclear power and to cost-shared energy research and development. At that time, Congress recognized the time, costs, and risks associated with the process of developing and certifying new reactor designs. Congress has proceeded with this timely program, sharing those costs and risks so that new reactor designs will be a safe, cost-competitive option for future baseload electricity needs.

Clearly, America has benefited from the nation's investment to date in nuclear energy technologies with about 20 percent of our electricity coming from pollution-free nuclear power plants.

Although there is not an immediate need for new baseload electricity in the United States, energy forecasts predict a 28 percent growth in demand by 2010. To meet this need, our companies believe they must have the option to consider standardized, NRC-approved nuclear plants as a part of a balanced mix of power generation facilities. To obtain that option, ARC member utilities are investing in the industry-government program to develop advanced light water nuclear plants. No other type of nuclear plant for commercial generation of electricity will be available in the U.S. within our planning horizon. With this technology, we will continue to lead the world and set high standards for safe and reliable commercial nuclear power.

We urge congress to continue its commitment for this vital national energy investment by appropriating a supporting government share of \$40 million in FY97.

Sincerely,

JAMES J. O'CONNOR,
Chairman, Advanced Reactor Corp.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I hope we will not agree with Senator MCCAIN when we vote tomorrow. If the unanimous consent agreement is complied with, it will be the first amendment up tomorrow. So we will remind you that is the first amendment tomorrow.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico is advised the yeas and nays have not been ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. I am sorry. They were not ordered because we did not have a sufficient second, but we assured Senator MCCAIN we would cooperate with him getting the requisite yeas and nays.

Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

AMENDMENT NO. 5096

(Purpose: To reduce funding for the weapons activities account to the level requested by the Administration)

Mr. BUMBERS. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The two pending amendments will be set aside by unanimous consent. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Arkansas [Mr. BUMBERS], for himself and Mr. HARKIN, proposes an amendment numbered 5096.

Mr. BUMBERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

On page 23, line 8, reduce the amount by \$286,600,000.

Mr. BUMBERS. Mr. President, first of all, I ask unanimous consent we limit this amendment to 15 minutes with the time equally divided.

Mr. DOMENICI. I thank the Senator. I wholeheartedly agree.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BUMBERS. Mr. President, this is an amendment which could get terribly complex. It involves a segment of the energy and water bill that is immensely complex. It is called "Atomic Energy Defense Activities." Within that there is an account called "Weapons Activities."

This bill contains \$3.978 billion, almost \$4 billion, for weapons activities. That is too much.

Let me say by digression, there are not two people in the Senate for whom I have a greater respect and admiration and personal friendship than the chairman of the committee and the ranking member, Senators DOMENICI and JOHN-

STON. But I feel obligated to raise this issue and get the debate going on how much money we are putting into this weapons activities account. Mr. President, the Senate bill proposes to provide roughly \$269 million more than the President's request and \$300 million above the House level.

The Senate bill's proposed funding level is actually \$531 million above the amount provided in fiscal year 1996, a 14-percent increase. That is just entirely too much.

I had a very good, lengthy letter from Senator DOMENICI pointing out that one of the reasons for this increase is that DOE had some carryover money in prior years that we are spending in 1996. However, that only accounts for a portion of the 14-percent increase. My amendment takes the carryover funds into account and proposes to reduce the weapons activities account by only \$269 million, which is the difference between the amount provided in the Senate bill and the administration's request.

The Senator makes what I know he considers to be plausible arguments, and I am not in a very good position to dispute some of the technical arguments made about why it was necessary to put all this extra money into this account. But any time you are offering a 14-percent increase in any kind of a budget in this day and time, with the budget constraints we are under, it ought to get every single Senator's attention.

The OMB Acting Director, Mr. Lew, sent each Member of the Senate a letter outlining the administration's concerns about the Senate bill being \$531 million above 1996 spending levels. And well he should be concerned. He is concerned because we are putting another \$531 million into weapons activities, and the Department of Energy is suffering mightily from cuts in civilian energy and research programs.

The Appropriations Committee report outlines the add-ons to the weapons activities programs. If you look over those add-ons, I am not sure exactly what they do, but there is one thing I do know. About \$90 million is not authorized.

For example, there is an \$80 million add-on for stockpile stewardship and \$50 million of that is not authorized. What are we doing appropriating money that has not been authorized?

There is an add-on for \$40 million for the accelerated strategic computing initiative—a mighty fancy name and I am not sure what all it does. But it is not authorized. The request already proposes \$120.6 million for the program—a 43-percent increase from fiscal year 1996.

Mr. President, I only have 7½ minutes on my time. I am not going to pursue this any further. I would just like to make a comment. I was speaking to 400 of the brightest kids in Arkansas at what is called Governor's School Saturday and about 800 parents. Politicians do not get a chance to talk

to 1,200 people very often. I was trying to figure out what I could say to those youngsters that my father used to say to me about the nobility of being in politics and public service. Not too many people believe that anymore, including an awful lot of people in this Chamber. They do not think it is such a hot profession anymore, either, including the 15 colleagues that are leaving this body.

But I tried to leave them on an upbeat note. I told them there were no problems in this country that were insurmountable. Indeed, if it weren't for the way we misspend money, I promise you we could have a balanced budget with a \$100 billion surplus in 1997.

When I talk about how we misspend our money, you bear in mind that this year, this fall, September 1, we will have for the third consecutive year less food carryover in our grain bins than we have ever had. The third straight year that our foodstuff carryover is going to be down, and in 1995, for the first time in 50 years, yields of foodstuff such as wheat, corn, rice, and so on, did not go up.

So how are we dealing with that? We are putting \$1.2 billion into agriculture research this year, 1996; \$1.2 billion. What are we giving the Defense Department for research on things that will explode and kill people? Mr. President, \$35 billion, almost 35 times more than what we are putting into agriculture research to feed our people and help feed the world, indeed.

Mr. President, \$14 billion is going to NASA, \$2 billion of which will be for the space station, and nobody has ever explained why we are putting money in the space station.

And \$12 billion for medical research, which everybody heartily agrees with. Incidentally, one of my staff members, Tracy Alderson, is leaving my office to pursue a medical degree and hopefully advance the cause of medical research in the future.

When you put it like that, there are very few people in America who would agree with those priorities. So while the \$531 million increase in weapons development doesn't mean much around here in a \$1.7 trillion budget, it "ain't" beanbag either. What it would do in medical research, what it would do in educating people, what it would do in providing more health care—and think about this—think what it would do in reducing the deficit, \$531 million.

Mr. President, my amendment does not even propose to eliminate the entire \$531 million increase. Rather, I am only trying to get us back to what the President requested, which is a 7-percent increase in this account.

I yield the floor.

Mr. DOMENICI addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, when we took testimony from Mr. Vic Reis, who is the Defense Department liaison with these programs, we established the basic proposition with him in the

record during his testimony, that the entire stockpile stewardship program, with all of the things we would have to add to it, to the previous programs and the maintenance of certain facilities that we hold in a contingency posture, should be about \$4 billion.

Having established that, we went through the budget and determined that the executive budget was only \$3.7 billion. They were \$300 million short of what Mr. Vic Reis, the leading expert in the Department of Energy for the DOD stockpile stewardship program, said.

If one notices, the difference between \$3.7 billion and \$4 billion is very, very close to the \$269 million that my good friend from Arkansas is seeking to take out of this bill. It doesn't quite get to the \$4 billion mark with \$3.7 billion, but it gets close.

The President's budget request said the following:

Defense program 5-year budget projections contained in the national security 5-year budget plan for 1996 through 2000 indicate that the stockpile stewardship and management programs will require increased funding for a period of several years after FY 1996. This baseline—

That is starting point—

has been modified to reflect fiscal year 1997 programs and budget decisions, but the outlook is much the same. Near-term investment must be increased to develop the new and appropriately sized effective complex and to develop the new tools required to maintain confidence in the safety, security and reliability of the stockpile in the absence of underground testing.

From a base of about \$3.6 billion in 1996, the annual total may reach \$4 billion by the year 1998. In August of 1995, President Clinton announced the United States would pursue a zero yield comprehensive test ban treaty as a condition. The President outlined a series of conditions under which the United States could enter this comprehensive test ban treaty.

The first condition was the implementation of a stockpile stewardship program. In January 1996, the Senate overwhelmingly approved the START II Treaty. The ratification text committed the United States to, one, a robust stockpile stewardship program; two, maintain sufficient production capabilities; three, maintain the national laboratories and the core competencies within them; four, maintain the Nevada test site in case the President determines a case of supreme national interest necessitated an underground test.

Where the increases go: \$82.5 million of the \$269 million that Senator BUMPERS is referring to for the stockpile stewardship program will be spent on the following: \$20 million is for enhanced surveillance to monitor the aging of weapons. That is perilously important. We must develop new techniques to monitor the aging of these weapons, some of which are 30 years old, and they contain hydrogen and nuclear blast capabilities and they must be safe, they must be trustworthy, and they must be maintained.

Of that \$82.5 million, \$40 million is for advanced scientific computing programs. Incidentally, the distinguished Senator from Arkansas questions that program. Last Friday, the President announced that these funds would be used by IBM to build a computer 300 times faster than existing computers to model the inside of nuclear weapons. The computer will be installed at Lawrence Livermore in California. I am certain that within the confines of the money here for this area of endeavor that there will be some other major advanced scientific computing programs announced.

Mr. President, \$10 million is for software for these new supercomputers, and \$10 million is for advanced manufacturing techniques.

The second item that he would strike is \$171 million from stockpile management, of which \$100 million is to upgrade production plants in Texas, South Carolina, and Missouri. This money will ensure the plants will be able to remanufacture weapons as needed. This is also a condition that I understand those in charge of our national defense insist upon if we are going to abide by the "no additional underground nuclear testing" position. Fifteen million dollars of that \$171 million is to enhance surveillance activities at plants to assess the reliability and safety of the weapons stockpile.

Fifty million dollars is for new tritium sources so that the total amount of \$150 million may be provided.

Mr. President, having worked on this bill for a long time, I am concerned that we provide adequate defense money to the Department of Energy so they can do their job, for there are many who would like to accuse it of not doing its job but are not considerate of the money needed for the defense work.

We believe we are moving rapidly in the direction recommended by the President and the Joint Chiefs of Staff with reference to the science-based program for stockpile safety and maintenance. We think these items are absolutely essential to get us there and keep us there for the next few years as we see whether or not we can actually accomplish this without underground testing.

If I have any additional time, I yield it back. I ask Senator JOHNSTON, do you want to speak?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. DOMENICI. I yield whatever time I have remaining to Senator JOHNSTON.

Mr. JOHNSTON. I simply rise in support of the position of the Senator from New Mexico. I was here several years ago speaking in favor of the continuation of the testing program, because I thought it was important for both reliability and safety.

The Senate saw fit to do away with that testing program. The justification was that there were other ways with this stockpile safety program to

achieve the same ends. That is why we have funded the program as we have. That is to achieve those same ends for reliability and safety of our nuclear deterrent. I think it would be a great mistake to cut that funding.

AMENDMENT NO. 5097

(Purpose: To ensure adequate funding for the Biomass Power for Rural Development Program)

Mr. JOHNSTON. Mr. President, I have been requested by the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. WELLSTONE], to offer an amendment on his behalf. I will shortly send that to the desk. Let me state what it does. I am sorry that I will not be able to support the amendment. In fact, I will oppose the amendment. But nevertheless, as a courtesy to my colleague, I will offer it.

What it would do is to take four-tenths of 1 percent of each program in R&D, energy supply, and put that into a program called Biomass Power for Rural Development. The money now available, some \$55 million, in biomass fuels in the bill, part of that could be used for the purposes for which the Senator from Minnesota would like it used, that is, the Niagara Mohawk power project, involving short rotation willows, which would be grown and harvested every 3 years, and also another project involving alfalfa stems. The alfalfa stem program would be a total of a \$232 million project, where the DOE cost share would be 20 percent of that, or approximately \$46 million.

Mr. President, it seems to me we should not get into one of these projects unless it can pass muster against the other programs. These would be available to be funded under the program—Mr. President, I just misspoke. I said \$55 million would be available for the program. Actually, only a part, \$27 million, would be available for biomass electric program.

All of these projects ought to compete for that \$27 million. We should not come in and, in effect, specify by limiting it to the Biomass Power for Rural Development Program, which is a very narrowly defined program. We should have all of these projects compete for the amounts available.

Mr. President, I send the amendment to the desk and ask that it be reported.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the pending amendments are set aside. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Louisiana [Mr. JOHNSTON] for Mr. WELLSTONE, proposes amendment numbered 5097.

Mr. JOHNSTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that further reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

On page 19, line 4, strike "expended." and insert in lieu thereof "expended; *Provided*, That funds appropriated for energy supply, research and development activities shall be reduced by four-tenths of one percent from each program and that the amount of the reduction shall be available for the biomass power for rural development program."

AMENDMENT NO. 5096

Mr. JOHNSTON. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on Senator Bumper's amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second for the yeas and nays on the Bumpers amendment? There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. I say to the Senator, I might move to table. Let us get that done. I move to table the Bumpers amendment and ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. Parliamentary inquiry. Is an amendment in order now?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. An amendment is in order if unanimous consent is granted to set aside the pending amendments.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the pending amendments be set aside so Senator KYL can offer his amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 5098

(Purpose: To reduce by \$13,402,300 funding of the Lower Colorado River Basin Development Fund)

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Arizona [Mr. KYL] proposes an amendment numbered 5098.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that further reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

On page 14, line 1, strike "\$410,499,000" and insert "\$397,096,700".

On page 14, line 5, strike "\$71,728,000" and insert "\$58,325,700".

On page 14, line 14, before the colon insert: "Provided further, the amounts allocated by the Committee on Appropriations of each House in accordance with sections 602(a) and 602(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and pursuant to the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1997 shall be adjusted downward by \$13,402,300 and the revised levels of budget authority and outlays shall be submitted to each House by the chairman of the Committee on the Budget of that House and shall be printed in the Congressional Record".

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, this amendment may sound a little strange at first because it actually reduces funding for an Arizona project, but this is important to do.

Mr. President, I rise to offer an amendment to reduce funding for the central Arizona project (CAP) by \$13,402,300. The amendment would bring the bill's fiscal year 1997 appropriation for CAP to \$58,325,700. That would represent a cut of about 19 percent in this project, and about a 3.2-percent reduction from the total Bureau of Reclamation construction budget.

Mr. President, I want to begin by commending the chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, Senator PETE DOMENICI, for his work on this bill and for his unwavering support of the CAP, a project that provides central and southern Arizona with its lifeblood—water.

The amendment I am offering today is the result of information received since the subcommittee took action on the energy and water bill a few weeks ago. Had the chairman been aware of the information at that time, I believe the funding levels in the bill would have been adjusted accordingly. In any event, it is appropriate that we adjust the figures now to prevent the unnecessary expenditure of hard-earned tax dollars.

The House of Representatives has already approved a similar amendment, which was offered with the unanimous support of Arizona's House delegation, during floor action in that body on July 24. My amendment differs somewhat from the House measure because of a difference of opinion between the Bureau and staff about how certain funds are accounted for. Although my amendment uses the more conservative numbers provided by the Bureau, the savings could rise depending upon how that dispute is resolved. If more could be saved, I would hope the conference committee would adopt that higher amount of savings.

Mr. President, I want to give credit to the Central Arizona Water Conservation District, the local sponsor of the CAP, for helping to identify savings that could be achieved, and I want to specifically list those savings here:

Hayden-Rhodes Aqueduct: Siphon repairs, \$1,616,000;

Hayden-Rhodes Aqueduct: Other repairs, \$1,509,000;

Modified Roosevelt Dam: Noncontract costs, \$214,000;

Other project costs: Water allocations—noncontract costs, \$500,000;

OPC O&M during construction, \$350,000;

Curation facilities, \$400,000;

Native fish protection, \$2,775,000;

Native fish protection—noncontract costs, \$332,000;

Environmental Enhancement: Major contracts, \$1,100,000

Noncontract costs, \$801,300;

New Waddell Dam: New recreation enhancement contracts, \$1,550,000; and

Noncontract costs, \$2,255,000.

Total reduction in fiscal year 1997 CAP budget—\$13,402,300.

Included in these reductions, for example, is \$1.5 million that was in the Bureau's budget request for Reach 11 dike repairs. But our information is that the Bureau has already completed such repairs and has no need for more money related to those repairs.

Another \$1.6 million relates to repair and replacement of siphons, but the Bureau has refused to complete the remaining siphon repairs.

I want to make clear that nothing in my amendment is intended to hamper

work on Indian distribution systems. Funding for work related to this activity is contained in a separate line item within the CAP budget that is left untouched by the amendment. I fully intend that these projects go forward as we have promised. Any effort by the Bureau to reprogram moneys set aside for such contracts would require the approval of the Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on Energy and Water Development. Such approval is highly unlikely.

If there are any activities that are adversely affected and proponents can justify why they should legitimately be supported through the CAP budget, I know the Arizona delegation would be glad to revisit the issue next year. Until then, however, I believe it is appropriate for the Senate to accept the savings being proposed today.

Mr. President, we have a unique opportunity today to save taxpayers some money without harming ongoing activities that are vital to the CAP. I urge the adoption of my amendment.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I want to first reassure the Senator from Arizona that I have not in any way diminished my support for the project he alluded here today, the great Arizona water project. I am totally in favor of it and have been a part of funding it for as long as I have been here, and, as chairman, I remain committed.

I thank the Senator for reducing the costs this year. He has found a way to save some money. I gather the amount is about \$13.4 million that he thinks we can save. The Senator proposes to save that and still keep the project on course. Is that not correct, Senator KYL?

Mr. KYL. That is correct.

Mr. DOMENICI. The Senator, in behalf of the people of his State, is fully aware this project is fully funded in this bill, and he is going to leave it fully funded in the best interests of his State. I give my commitment to keep that going in that manner.

AMENDMENT NO. 5099 TO AMENDMENT NO. 5098

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, having said that, the amendment has a provision in it with reference to what the money can be used for that is saved, and I have a second-degree amendment that I will offer which makes that no longer subject to a point of order, because it directs where the money must be spent. I provide a number of amendments that I have agreed to with other Senators to clean up this bill. These will all be offered as second-degree amendments to the KYL amendment.

I send the amendment to the desk, and I ask for immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New Mexico [Mr. DOMENICI], for himself and Mr. JOHNSTON, proposes an amendment numbered 5099 to amendment No. 5098.

Mr. DOMENICI. This is offered not only in my behalf, but the distinguished ranking member, Senator JOHNSTON, is a cosponsor of this.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has to have unanimous consent for dispensing of the reading.

Mr. DOMENICI. I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

In amendment No. 5098, strike lines 3 through 9 and insert in lieu thereof:

On page 19, line 3, strike "2,749,043,000," and insert in lieu thereof "2,764,043,000," and on page 20, line 9, strike "220,200,000 and insert in lieu thereof "205,200,000."

Insert where appropriate: "TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT.—Within available funds, up to \$2,000,000 is provided for demonstration of stir-melter technology developed by the Department and previously intended to be used at the Savannah River site. In carrying out this demonstration, the Department is directed to seek alternative use of this technology in order to maximize the investment already made in this technology."

Insert where appropriate: "MAINTENANCE OF SECURITY AT GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANTS.—Section 161k. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2201k.) is amended by striking 'subsection;' and inserting the following: 'subsection. With respect to the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Kentucky, and the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Ohio, the guidelines shall require, at a minimum, the presence of an adequate number of security guards carrying sidearms at all times to ensure maintenance of security at the gaseous diffusion plants;'"

Insert where appropriate: "TECHNICAL CORRECTION TO THE USEC PRIVATIZATION ACT.—Section 3110(b) of the USEC Privatization Act (Public Law 104-134, title III, chapter 1, subchapter A) is amended by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

"(3) The Corporation shall pay to the Thrift Savings Fund such employee and agency contributions as are required or authorized by sections 8432 and 8351 of title 5, United States Code, for employees who elect to retain their coverage under CSRS or FERS pursuant to paragraph (1)."

Insert where appropriate: "Provided, That funds made available by this Act for departmental administration may be used by the Secretary of Energy to offer employees voluntary separation incentives to meet staffing and budgetary reductions and restructuring needs through September 30, 1997 consistent with plans approved by the Office of Management and Budget. The amount of each incentive shall be equal to the smaller of the employee's severance pay, or \$20,000. Voluntary separation recipients who accept employment with the Federal Government, or enter into a personnel services contract with the Federal Government within 5 years after separation shall repay the entire amount to the Department of Energy."

On page 2, between lines 24 and 25, insert the following: "Tahoe Basin Study, Nevada and California, \$200,000; Walker River Basin restoration study, Nevada and California, \$300,000;"

On page 3, line 20, strike "construction costs for Montgomery Point Lock and Dam, Arkansas, and"

On page 13, line 21, after "expended" insert "Provided further, That within available funds, \$150,000 is for completion of the feasibility study of alternatives for meeting the

drinking water needs of Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation and surrounding communities'.

On page 7, line 19, add the following before the period: "Provided further, That the Secretary of the Army is directed to use \$600,000 of funding provided herein to perform maintenance dredging of the Cocheco River navigation project, New Hampshire."

On page 5, after line 2, insert the following: "Mill Creek, Ohio, \$500,000;"

On page 5, line 8, strike "\$6,000,000" and insert in lieu thereof: "8,000,000".

On page 23, line 22, strike "\$5,615,210,000" and insert "\$5,605,210,000"; and on page 23, line 8, strike "\$3,978,602,000" and insert "\$3,988,602,000".

On page 14, on line 12, after "amended" insert "\$12,500,000 shall be available for the Mid-Dakota Rural Water System".

On page 6, line 24, strike "\$1,700,358,000" and insert "\$1,688,358,000".

On page 3, line 15, strike "\$1,024,195,000" and insert "\$1,049,306,000".

On page 5, line 25, insert the following before the period: "Provided further, That the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, is authorized and directed to initiate construction on the following projects in the amounts specified:

"Kake Harbor, Alaska, \$4,000,000;
"Helena and Vicinity, Arkansas, \$150,000;
"San Lorenzo, California, \$200,000;
"Panama City Beaches, Florida, \$400,000;
"Chicago Shoreline, Illinois, \$1,300,000;
"Pond Creek, Jefferson City, Kentucky, \$3,000,000;

"Boston Harbor, Massachusetts, \$500,000;
"Poplar Island, Maryland, \$5,000,000;
"Natchez Bluff, Mississippi, \$5,000,000;
"Wood River, Grand Isle, Nebraska, \$1,000,000;

"Duck Creek, Cincinnati, Ohio, \$466,000;
"Saw Mill River, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, \$500,000;
"Upper Jordan River, Utah, \$1,100,000;
"San Juan Harbor, Puerto Rico, \$800,000; and

"Allendale Dam, Rhode Island, \$195,000; Provided further, That no fully allocated funding policy shall apply to construction of the projects listed above, and the Secretary of the Army is directed to undertake these projects using continuing contracts where sufficient funds to complete the projects are not available from funds provided herein or in prior years."

On page 14, line 1, strike "\$410,499,000" and insert "\$398,596,700".

On page 15, line 13, insert the following before the period: "Provided further, That \$1,500,000 shall be available for construction of McCall Wastewater Treatment, Idaho facility, and \$1,000,000 shall be available for Devils Lake Desalination, North Dakota Project".

On page 29, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

"SALARIES AND EXPENSES

"For expenses necessary to carry out the functions of the United States member of the Delaware River Basin Commission, as authorized by law (75 Stat. 716), \$342,000."

On page 33, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

"SALARIES AND EXPENSES

"For expenses necessary to carry out the functions of the United States member of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission as authorized by law (84 Stat. 1541), \$322,000."

On page 17, line 19, strike "\$48,971,000" and insert "\$48,307,000".

On page 7, line 19, insert the following before the period: "Provided further, That \$750,000 is for the Buford-Trenton Irrigation District, Section 33, erosion control project in North Dakota".

Mr. DOMENICI. I ask unanimous consent that Senator JOHNSTON be added as a cosponsor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. I understand the distinguished Senator has a schedule problem. I indicate we ought to adopt the amendment, and then I will brief the Senate on what is in the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment sent to the desk by the Senator from New Mexico is not a formal second-degree amendment to the amendment of the Senator from Arizona.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KYL). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the second-degree amendment be in order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the second-degree amendment.

The amendment (No. 5099) was agreed to.

Mr. JOHNSTON. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. DOMENICI. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I want to thank the managers of this legislation for working with me to protect our country's renewable energy programs. The amendment I offered, along with Senators ROTH, LEAHY, MURKOWSKI, CHAFEE, BUMPERS, DASCHLE, KOHL, and CONRAD, will essentially maintain fiscal year 1996 spending levels for most solar, wind, biomass, and other renewable energy programs. The amendment restores \$23 million to these accounts, preserving our nation's main efforts to attain energy independence.

Mr. President, the United States imports in excess of 50 percent of the oil we use to power our homes, automobiles, and workplaces. Our dependence on this foreign oil continues to be a risk to our national security and is running up our trade deficit. Despite this fact, we continue to reduce funding for the few programs which lead us down the path of energy independence. In the legislation we are debating today, funding for solar, wind, biomass, and renewable energy programs is cut by almost 30 percent and a number of important programs are eliminated completely.

I am very aware of the constraints the managers of this legislation have had with this bill and I commend them

for their efforts. However, I feel strongly that this Nation and this Congress should continue to support investment in renewable technologies. The cost of wind, photovoltaics, solar thermal, and biomass have dropped more than ten fold over the last 15 years. Wind energy, which has been cut 50 percent from last year's levels in this bill, has developed into the major alternative energy contributor. Over 5,000 megawatts of wind energy electricity has been installed to date—or energy equal to five nuclear power plants.

Due to cost-shared research and development on materials, turbine blade design, and manufacturing, the U.S. wind industry leads the world in the lowest-cost and most efficient wind generators. The combined research and development budget of the European Community equals \$130 million. This legislation provides the entire research and development funding for our renewable efforts, which is only while this bill provides only \$15 million. Clearly this is inequitable and does not provide a sufficient threshold to continue the basic research and cost-shared applied research necessary to maintain the lead in both the domestic and global markets. The amendment I am offering will provide \$31.5 million for wind programs, \$1 million lower than fiscal year 1996 levels.

Our Nation should be proud of its lead in developing advanced wind energy systems. My State of Vermont certainly takes pride in its growing wind industry. One of our utilities, Green Mountain Power, has been a national wind energy leader, and is currently constructing a 6 megawatt project that will utilize eleven 550 kilowatt turbines manufactured by Zond Systems of California. The Zond turbine has been participating in cost-shared development with the U.S. Department of Energy and the National Wind Technology Center at NREL. Green Mountain Power's Vice President, Norm Terreri, is now serving as president of the American Wind Energy Association.

Vermont is also home to NRG Systems, of Hinesburg, VT, one of the world's leading high technology manufacturers of wind measuring devices and a company that has made export sales in over 50 countries. Atlantic Orient, of Norwich, VT, has manufactured a 50-kilowatt wind turbine in cooperation with the Department of Energy that has become one of the most popular turbines for wind-diesel hybrid locations for remote locations such as Alaska and the Canadian Arctic. The New World Power Technology Company of Waitsfield, VT, is a leading manufacturer of wind-PV village power systems.

Wind companies around the country, like those in Vermont, look to the Federal Government for support in this new, booming market. We cannot let these companies fall behind their European or Asian competitors as this market expands.

Solar thermal electricity has been on a major growth spurt, with the United States leading the world. In June, the Solar Two project was ribbon-cut in California. At this site, the heat from solar mirror concentrating sunlight atop a tower is stored in nitrate salt which can then create steam-to-electricity day or night, rain or shine. A solar dish/engine manufacturing facility was ribbon-cut in Texas. Both projects came from cost-shared research and development at the Department of Energy. In this bill we are including funding for solar industrial research and development to bring this same technology to industrial process heat, new material creation from photon concentration, and some inter-agency cost share research on solar detoxification.

Over 70 percent of photovoltaics are exported overseas and over 50 percent of wind, solar thermal, geothermal, and biomass equipment and services are exported primarily to third world countries. To this end, the amendment has included \$1.5 million directed explicitly to continue the work of the Federal interagency activity called the Committee on Renewable Energy Commerce and Trade [CORECT] signed into law by President Reagan to ensure that the U.S. Government coordinates its export capabilities. The European Community and Japan provide subsidized export financing to their respective industries and other incentives which equal hundreds of millions of dollars of support. The funding for this program is to make U.S. Federal agencies maximize their efficiency by utilizing existing programs to promote the exportation of renewable energy equipment and services. Nearly 2 billion people on the globe do not have access to electricity and this program has made great strides in rectifying that situation. To that end, three new automated manufacturing facilities in the United States have been recently ribbon-cut to manufacture photovoltaics for this growing overseas market.

This bill also provides support to an effective program at the \$1 million level for the Renewal Energy Production Incentive [REPI]. REPI provides support to municipal electric utilities and rural electric cooperatives to utilize solar and renewable energy. This program was established under the Energy Policy Act of 1992 because at that time only private utility subsidiaries could access the solar and geothermal tax credits. REPI allows the rest of the industry an equivalent program to utilize tax credits. The response from the municipal utilities and cooperatives has been enthusiastic and this program has over 18 renewable energy projects underway.

Another voluntary program is also funded at \$1 million level for all utilities to integrate renewable energy in an effort to offset emissions that have wrought global climate change. The Utility Climate Challenge Program has been supported by all of the electric

utilities as a stellar example of the way Government should work—encouraging innovation rather than command-and-control measures.

The final program funded is the Resource Assessment Program at \$1 million. This is a program carried out primarily by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory [NREL] which analyzes satellite and other data for those that want to know the extent of renewable energy in their area, whether that be solar, wind, biomass, or geothermal. This program can only be carried out by national laboratories and would put our industries at a competitive disadvantage if not explicitly funded.

Mr. President, this amendment is an extremely modest investment to preserve U.S. energy options, create U.S. jobs, and protect our environment. I commend the managers of this bill for recognizing the importance of these programs and for supporting this amendment.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I strongly support the efforts of Senator JEFFORDS and Senator ROTH to maintain level funding for renewable energy programs. I am proud to cosponsor this amendment and join their efforts.

Mr. President, this amendment restores our investment in the future of sustainable energy. Unfortunately, this Congress has cut funding for renewable energy by 38 percent over the last two years. These cuts are shortsighted. To ensure that future generations can enjoy clean energy, we must maintain our commitment to support funding for research and development of solar, wind, and biomass energy.

In particular, I firmly believe that Congress has a responsibility to reaffirm its commitment to wind energy funding. Wind energy is now a \$4 billion industry in the United States. Department of Energy funding has been key to this success by developing wind energy projects for commercialization.

In my home State of Vermont, for example, Department of Energy funding for wind energy has helped develop a growing environmentally-friendly industry. With DOE support, Vermont companies have developed state-of-the-art wind turbines and other high technology products at wind energy projects in the Green Mountains of Vermont, in rural villages in Alaska and even on the top of the South Pole. And these DOE-supported projects have become proving grounds for Vermont companies to tap into a growing wind energy export market around the world.

But the wind energy industry in Vermont and across the country is at a critical stage in its development. European and Asian wind industries—which are heavily subsidized by their governments—are emerging as competitive rivals. As a result, we must continue strong DOE funding to maintain America's leadership role in the global wind energy market.

Mr. President, this amendment makes sense for our future and our

children's future. Our children and grandchildren should be able to enjoy sustainable, clean and renewable energy. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is now on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 5098) was agreed to.

Mr. JOHNSTON. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. DOMENICI. I move to table the motion.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I will go through and make sure the Senators know which of their requests are in this amendment, but I will go through the comprehensive amendment that takes care of many amendments that were pending, not all of which cost money, and some of these have offsets from other provisions in the bill.

An increase in solar and renewable energy by \$2,372,000 in behalf of Senator JEFFORDS and others; stir-melter technology, Senator LOTT and others, \$2 million; allow guards at enrichment plants to carry sidearms, MCCONNELL and others; technical corrections to the USEC Privatization Act regarding the Thrift Savings Plan, MCCONNELL and others; provide DOE authority to offer voluntary separation incentives, requested by the Secretary; Tahoe Basin study, Senator REID; Walker River Basin study, Senator REID; study of the water needs of the Cheyenne River Sioux, DASCHLE; language that would require 50 percent of the Montgomery Point lock and dam project be derived from the Inland Waterway trust fund, Senator BUMPERS; maintenance of dredging at Cochecho River project, Senator SMITH; Mill Creek project in Ohio, half a million dollars; Virginia Beach erosion control for the State of Virginia; tritium production, additional \$10 million requested by the Senator from South Carolina; rural water system development mid-Dakota, for Senators PRESSLER and DASCHLE.

Mr. JOHNSTON. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. DOMENICI. Helena and vicinity, Arkansas.

I am happy to yield.

AMENDMENT NO. 5099, AS MODIFIED

Mr. JOHNSTON. I am advised there was a pending objection by Senator GLENN to part of the first amendment relating to the U.S. Enrichment Corporation.

Therefore, I move to vitiate the action just taken with respect to the following language. In other words, the following language of that first amendment should be deleted.

Insert where appropriate: Technical correction to the USEC Privatization Act—Section 3110(b) of the USEC Privatization Act (Public Law 104-134, title III, chapter 1, subchapter A) is amended by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

(3) The Corporation shall pay the Thrift Savings Fund such employee and agency contributions as are required or authorized

by sections 8432 and 8351 of title 5, United States Code, for employees who elect to retain their coverage under CSRS or FERS pursuant to paragraph (1).

I send a modification of amendment No. 5099 to the desk deleting the language I just read.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has that right, and the amendment is so modified.

The amendment (No. 5099), as modified, is as follows:

In amendment No. 5098, strike lines 3 through 9 and insert in lieu thereof:

On page 19, line 3, strike “2,749,043,000,” and insert in lieu thereof “2,764,043,000,” and on page 20, line 9, strike “220,200,000” and insert in lieu thereof “205,200,000.”

Insert where appropriate: “TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT.—Within available funds, up to \$2,000,000 is provided for demonstration of stir-melter technology developed by the Department and previously intended to be used at the Savannah River site. In carrying out this demonstration, the Department is directed to seek alternative use of this technology in order to maximize the investment already made in this technology.”

Insert where appropriate: “MAINTENANCE OF SECURITY AT GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANTS.—Section 161k. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2201k.) is amended by striking ‘subsection;’ and inserting the following: ‘subsection. With respect to the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Kentucky, and the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Ohio, the guidelines shall require, at a minimum, the presence of an adequate number of security guards carrying sidearms at all times to ensure maintenance of security at the gaseous diffusion plants;.’”

Insert where appropriate: “Provided, That funds made available by this Act for the departmental administration may be used by the Secretary of Energy to offer employees voluntary separation incentives to meet staffing and budgetary reductions and restructuring needs through September 30, 1997 consistent with plans approved by the Office of Management and Budget. The amount of each incentive shall be equal to the smaller of the employee's severance pay, or \$20,000. Voluntary separation recipients who accept employment with the Federal Government, or enter into a personal services contract with the Federal Government within 5 years after separation shall repay the entire amount to the Department of Energy.”

On page 2, between lines 24 and 25, insert the following: “Tahoe Basin Study, Nevada and California, \$200,000; Walker River Basin restoration study, Nevada and California, \$300,000;”

On page 3, line 20, strike “construction costs for Montgomery Point Lock and Dam, Arkansas, and”

On page 13, line 21, after “expended” insert “: Provided further, That within available funds, \$150,000 is for completion of the feasibility study of alternatives for meeting the drinking water needs of Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation and surrounding communities”

On page 7, line 19, add the following before the period: “Provided further, That the Secretary of the Army is directed to use \$600,000 of funding provided herein to perform maintenance dredging of the Cochecho River navigation project, New Hampshire.”

On page 5, after line 2, insert the following: “Mill Creek, Ohio, \$500,000;”

On page 5, line 8, strike “\$6,000,000” and insert in lieu thereof “\$8,000,000”

On page 23, line 22, strike “\$5,615,210,000” and insert “\$5,605,210,000”; and on page 23,

line 8, strike “\$3,978,602,000” and insert “\$3,988,602,000”.

On page 14, on line 12, after “amended” insert “\$12,500,000 shall be available for the Mid-Dakota Rural Water System”.

On page 6, line 24, strike “\$1,700,358,000” and insert “\$1,688,358,000”.

On page 3, line 15, strike “\$1,024,195,000” and insert “\$1,049,306,000”.

On page 5, line 25, insert the following before the period: “: Provided further, That the Secretary of the Army acting through the Chief of Engineers, is authorized and directed to initiate construction on the following projects in the amounts specified:

“Kake Harbor, Alaska, \$4,000,000;
 “Helena and Vicinity, Arkansas, \$150,000;
 “San Lorenzo, California, \$200,000;
 “Panama City Beaches, Florida, \$400,000;
 “Chicago Shoreline, Illinois, \$1,300,000;
 “Pond Creek, Jefferson City, Kentucky, \$3,000,000;
 “Boston Harbor, Massachusetts, \$500,000;
 “Poplar Island, Maryland, \$5,000,000;
 “Natchez Bluff, Mississippi, \$5,000,000;
 “Wood River, Grand Isle, Nebraska, \$1,000,000;
 “Duck Creek, Cincinnati, Ohio, \$466,000;
 “Saw Mill River, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, \$500,000;
 “Upper Jordan River, Utah, \$1,100,000;
 “San Juan Harbor, Puerto Rico, \$800,000; and
 “Allendale Dam, Rhode Island, \$195,000;

Provided further, That no fully allocated funding policy shall apply to construction of the projects listed above, and the Secretary of the Army is directed to undertake these projects using continuing contracts where sufficient funds to complete the projects are not available from funds provided herein or in prior years.”

On page 14, line 1, strike “\$410,499,000” and insert “\$398,596,700”.

On page 15, line 13, insert the following before the period: “: Provided further, That \$1,500,000 shall be available for construction of McCall Wastewater Treatment, Idaho facility, and \$1,000,000 shall be available for Devils Lake desalination, North Dakota project”.

On page 29, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

“SALARIES AND EXPENSES

“For expenses necessary to carry out the functions of the United States member of the Delaware River Basin Commission as authorized by law (75 Stat. 716), \$342,000.”

On page 33, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

“SALARIES AND EXPENSES

“For expenses necessary to carry out the functions of the United States member of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, as authorized by law (84 Stat. 1541), \$322,000.”

On page 17, line 19, strike “\$48,971,000” and insert “\$48,307,000”.

On page 7, line 19, insert the following before the period: “Provided further, That \$750,000 is for the Buford-Trenton Irrigation District, Section 33, erosion control project in North Dakota”.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I don't know the extent of the disagreement on that amendment. But I won't object. We will try to work it out. It seems there is a difference of opinion. We will get the staff and Senators together quick and see what we can do.

I will continue to read the list:

San Lorenzo, CA, \$200,000; Panama City FL, \$400,000; Shoreline in Chicago, \$1.3 million; \$3 million for Pond Creek in Jefferson City, KY; Boston Harbour, \$500,000; Poplar Island, MD, a program

both Senators support and the administration supports, \$5 million; Natchez Bluff, MS, \$5 million; \$1 million for Wood River, NE; and, hence, others not listed here that are clearly stated.

Mr. President, that means we have adopted the underlying amendment and the amendment that Senator JOHNSTON and I offered. We are now ready for additional amendments.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, may I also ask what the pending business is before the Senate?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The pending business is the Johnston, for Wellstone, amendment.

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the current business be set aside so that I may offer an amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 5100

(Purpose: To limit funding for Appalachian Regional Commission at House-passed level and require the Commission to be phased out in 5 years)

Mr. GRAMS. I send an amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Minnesota [Mr. GRAMS] proposes an amendment numbered 5100.

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

On page 28, line 16, strike "\$165,000,000" and insert "\$155,331,000".

On page 28, line 17, at the end of the sentence, add the following: "The Commission shall provide the House and Senate Appropriations Committee a specific plan for downsizing."

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, this is a very moderate and a very straightforward amendment. It would simply adopt the funding for the Appalachian Regional Commission at the House-passed level of \$10 million less than the Senate level and require that the commission provide a specific plan for future downsizing and elimination.

Mr. President, this is not a new issue. We have debated it many times before, and I offered a very similar amendment last year. The reason I bring it up again is simple. I want to remind the American people that pork-barrel spending is alive and well in Washington, and Congress has demonstrated little courage to phase out or eliminate these costly types of programs.

For a number of years, the Congressional Budget Office has recommended the elimination of the ARC as one of the many options for deficit reduction. Last year, both the Senate and the House passed a budget resolution calling for the elimination of ARC. This year, the House budget resolution has again assumed further savings from a phased-in downsizing of ARC. While the House-passed appropriations bill provides \$155 million for the Appalachian Regional Commission and requires continued downsizing, the Senate bill grants \$165 million—that is \$10 million more than approved by the House—and it does not address the question of downsizing.

There are no persuasive justifications for the Senate funding level. The program should be terminated. Yet there appears to be no congressional will to end any program once it has been authorized. That is why I have sought to sunset Federal programs since I came to Congress.

Mr. President, the Appalachian Regional Commission was created in 1965 as a temporary response to poverty in Appalachia. Let me say that again. In 1965, it was created as a temporary response to poverty in Appalachia. Today, over 30 years later, despite the infusion of more than 7 billion taxpayer dollars into the region, we are still pouring money into the area under the pretext of fighting poverty. If the Appalachia region is still impoverished, we should ask ourselves why we have spent so much money for so many years, and why poverty in this region requires still more Federal dollars than other poverty-stricken areas of our country.

We should also question the real contribution the ARC has made to any long-term economic development of the Appalachia.

A study conducted by scholar Michael Bradshaw in 1992 might help to provide us with some kind of an answer. After analyzing 25 years of Government policy in the region, Mr. Bradshaw concludes:

The great paradox of Appalachian development since 1960 is that although relatively greater sums of money have been invested in central Appalachia, this part of the region has shown the lowest ability to increase its economic and social indicators relative to the rest of the United States.

The region as a whole has made strides over the past 25 years toward improving conditions for attracting new sources of employment, but Mr. Bradshaw goes on to say that "these changes have had more to do with external economic factors than with the influence of the ARC."

Now, in the 1980's, there was strong growth in the area which mirrored the economic growth of the country at large. During this time, ARC funding was reduced by 40 percent. Did the region suffer? On the contrary. Taxes were cut and unemployment rates fell by 38 percent.

That is how President Kennedy created jobs back in the 1960's, that is how

President Reagan created jobs in the 1980's, and that is how we need to create jobs as we approach the year 2000.

Mr. President, what does not make any sense about this program is that it is one of 62 Federal economic development programs that are under the jurisdiction of 18 different departments and agencies. Yet the ARC is the only major Government agency targeted toward a specific region of the country. Many of the projects funded by the ARC duplicate activities are already funded by other Federal agencies.

For instance, the \$104 million Appalachian highway development project provided by the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations bill also falls under the jurisdiction of the Transportation Department's Federal highway program. Other projects of the ARC are funded by agencies such as the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

As one Member of Congress rightly pointed out, "What the Appalachian Regional Commission does is essentially allow 13 States in this country to double dip into infrastructure money, money to do economic development and money also to do highway and water construction and projects like that."

While the ARC claims to allocate funds for the poor rural communities of Appalachia, these areas are no worse off than rural communities in Minnesota, in Arizona, or the 35 other States that do not benefit from ARC funding. In fact, in my home State of Minnesota, 12.8 percent of my constituents live below the poverty level, and that is a disturbing statistic. It is higher than many States which benefit from the ARC funding, such as Virginia, which is at 9.4 percent; Maryland, at 11.6; Pennsylvania, at 11.7; and Ohio, at 12.6 percent.

So these States benefit from ARC funding because of poverty levels, yet my home State of Minnesota, which does not, of course, enjoy ARC funding, is at 12.8 percent. But do Minnesotans have a Federal program designed just for them? Of course not, and I am not advocating that we should.

To pay for something like the ARC on a nationwide basis would require billions of dollars, funded either by cutting more from other programs, borrowing money from our children, increasing the deficit, or by raising taxes. The first option is unlikely. The remaining three are completely unacceptable. Already, for every dollar the taxpayers of my State send to the Federal Treasury, they receive only 82 cents of Government services. For every dollar they send to the Federal Treasury, Minnesotans receive only 82 cents worth of the Government's services, but the States which benefit from ARC funding receive on average \$1.21 for every tax dollar they contribute.

So for every dollar they send in, they get \$1.21 back from Washington, while in my State of Minnesota, for every dollar we send in, we get 82 cents back.

Minnesota has been a good neighbor and has contributed more than its fair share, but when Minnesotans see \$750,000 of ARC funds spent on a summer practice stadium for the National Football League's Carolina Panthers, this is a huge slap in the face.

My point, Mr. President, is not that Minnesota and other States with high poverty levels in this country should get more Federal assistance but that there is a compelling reason to reduce the funding for ARC and compelling reasons to continue downsizing a program that has outlived its original mandate. It is ineffective, it is expensive, and it simply does not work.

American taxpayers can no longer afford such extravagant spending. It is time to let this important region of our country benefit from the same myriad of programs that serve other poverty areas. These programs can be improved and streamlined to help stimulate economic development and thereby provide needed Federal assistance to all of the country. Our first priority, however, is to balance our budget, provide tax credits for working Americans, and to create an environment that will stimulate job growth and help to boost all salaries.

So, Mr. President, although I strongly believe that the ARC should be terminated, my amendment does not zero out funding for the ARC, nor does it reduce it significantly, but it simply reduces the level of funding to that already approved by the House, and that is to take the \$165 million in the Senate bill and to match it with the \$155 million currently in the House bill.

I urge my colleagues to support this moderate amendment. Congress should show the American people at least a little courage by slowing down this Federal spending "Energizer Bunny," or we could say the "Energizer Piggy," which keeps going on and going on and going on.

I also ask unanimous consent to add Senator MCCAIN as an original cosponsor of this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DOMENICI). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRAMS. If there is no further debate, I ask for the yeas and nays on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. GRAMS. I thank the Chair.

Mr. KEMPTHORNE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I rise in support of the pending appropriations bill, and I thank the manager of the bill, the able Senator from New Mexico, who is currently the Presiding Officer of the Senate, Senator DOMENICI, for his tremendous leadership on these issues dealing with energy and water, and the senior Senator from Louisiana, BENNETT JOHNSTON, noting

that this will be the culmination of his service in the Senate. He will be greatly missed because of the expertise and experience and enthusiasm that he brings to today's issues of energy and natural resources. A wealth of knowledge goes with him and with him our best wishes as well.

The fiscal year 1997 energy and water appropriations bill provides funding for some of the highest priority Federal responsibilities. For example, the bill provides a total of \$5.6 billion, an increase of \$205 million above the budget request for the Department of Energy's defense environmental management program. The DOE defense environmental management program includes the safe handling and the treatment of some of the most toxic materials on this planet Earth such as spent nuclear fuel, high-level liquid waste and surplus weapons grade plutonium—certainly the appropriate use of funds and in fact the addition of these funds.

The budget increase recommended by the Senate Appropriations Committee is consistent with the increase authorized by the defense authorization bill passed by the Senate just a few weeks ago. The pending appropriations bill provides increases for important programs in Idaho including an increase in funding for the Department of Energy's national spent nuclear fuel program.

In testimony earlier this year, Secretary O'Leary acknowledged that the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory had been designated as the DOE lead lab for the spent nuclear fuel program but additional funds to meet these new responsibilities had not been provided.

The bill now before the Senate addresses this shortfall. The pending bill also provides \$200 million to move forward with the effort to open a permanent repository for spent nuclear fuel at Yucca Mountain. In light of the ongoing Senate debate regarding the Craig bill, this funding, which represents a 32 percent increase over the fiscal year 1996 level, is certainly appropriate and needed.

The bill also provides almost \$4 billion, an increase of \$269 million, for the Department of Energy's nuclear weapons program. These funds are essential to ensure that our nuclear stockpile remains safe and reliable.

The pending bill also funds important energy functions of the Department of Energy. The bill provides \$20 million for the electrometallurgical demonstration program at Argonne National Lab. This important program to treat DOE spent nuclear fuel for final disposition is reduced by \$5 million from the budget request. I will address this reduction with the chairman and the ranking member at the appropriate time.

I want to offer my praise for the funding levels provided in this bill and to the leadership, again, of the two managers of this bill. The funding increase for the defense environmental management program will expedite

cleanup and remediation at sites like INEL, Savannah River, and Hanford, and save American taxpayers money in the long run. These funds will show the American people that this Senate will deal with the environmental challenges left over from our victory in the cold war.

I urge adoption of the pending bill and thank the managers again for this time.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

THE PACIFIC OCEAN DIVISION OFFICE, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I rise today to thank the managers of this bill for including my language in committee to prohibit the Army Corps of Engineers from obligating funds to close the Pacific Ocean Division [POD] office.

The Pacific Ocean Division has the largest civil works jurisdictional area, covering almost a one-third of the globe. Maintaining the POD office is very important to the United States' ability to deliver critical military and civil works assistance to our allies in the Asia-Pacific region.

The POD has been characterized as a model of efficiency and effectiveness, particularly in military construction. In this age of restructuring to improve efficiency, the Army Corps of Engineers proposal seems to undermine these goals.

I have requested that the Army Corps of Engineers provide me with a detailed cost/benefit analysis justifying closing the POD. I have not been provided with this analysis. Until an analysis is provided that demonstrates that the POD is not a model of efficiency and effectiveness, I will fight to see that the POD remains open.

I request that the chairman and ranking member make every effort to ensure that the Senate position is maintained in conference with the House.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise in strong support of this bipartisan bill. It contains funding for many programs and projects important to our Nation and my region. I thank Chairman DOMENICI and Senator JOHNSTON—and their very capable staffs—for the superb jobs they have done.

Cleanup and restoration of the Hanford site is one of my top priorities. In this bill, the Department of Energy's Environmental Management program is well funded. While I disagree with the allocation of resources between defense and nondefense programs in the majority's budget, I appreciate that some of that extra defense money goes to worthwhile programs, like environmental management.

One aspect of the EM program that continues to trouble me is the approach the Department has taken to privatization at Hanford. I appreciate the subcommittee's effort to minimize the impact of privatization by suggesting that only \$150 million, rather than \$185 million, be taken from the tank farm operating budget in order to

make a down payment on the tank waste remediation program. Senators GORTON, DOMENICI, JOHNSTON, and I have sent a letter to the Department asking a number of questions about this approach to privatization. While I am a supporter of privatization, I believe sweeping changes must be well thought out and should not harm ongoing efforts to stabilize the tank farms.

Mr. President, this administration has done a terrific job of moving Hanford cleanup forward. For years, Hanford has been largely a money hole into which enormous Federal dollars were thrown, but little was accomplished. I want to recognize the accomplishments of Secretary O'Leary's Department of Energy and the people at Hanford who have done such an outstanding job of reducing costs and increasing results.

Let me share some of the latest results at Hanford.

There are several specific cleanup programs that have made significant progress recently. One of those is at the Plutonium Uranium Extraction [PUREX] Plant where the criticality system was shut off forever last month. The alarm is not necessary because there is no longer a chance of a nuclear accident at the 40-year-old plant. This shows tremendous progress and is evidence of the dedication of Hanford employees—who reached this goal 16 months ahead of schedule and \$47 million under budget.

The K-basin's spent fuel project is also on track. The canister storage building is 15 percent complete and the managers estimate they can begin large-scale spent fuel removal by December 1997. At that time, fuel will be removed from both K-basins to be cleaned, loaded into baskets, placed in multi-canister overpacks, dried in a cold vacuum, and placed in the canister storage building. Already, several hundred spent fuel canisters have been removed and cleaned; and the system is working as planned. Another point of interest is that project acceleration decisions made and implemented in 1995 have saved \$350 million and will allow the project to be completed 4 years early. This is great progress.

The Pacific Northwest National Laboratory is in the final stages of construction of the new Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory [EMSL]. The lab is a critical component of our efforts to develop the scientific understanding needed to create innovative and cost-effective technologies for environmental remediation. EMSL scientists will research soil and water quality, waste characterization, processing, and health effects. This state-of-the-art facility will complement the Hanford cleanup mission and make a positive contribution to many of our most troubling environmental and pollution problems.

Mr. President, I appreciate the commitment of this body and the administration to the cleanup of former defense production sites, like Hanford. I pledge to work with my colleagues to

see that progress continues and that the Federal Government fulfills its responsibility to the people of this Nation who fought and won the cold war.

I would also like to voice my strong support for an amendment offered by Senator JEFFORDS regarding funding for renewable energy. In the last 2 years, funding for wind, solar, and other renewable energy research and development programs has been cut by almost 40 percent. Last year, the Senate restored some of the funding for these important programs, but eventually the renewables program lost ground in conference with the House. I want to lend my voice to many of my colleagues who support renewable energy and see such programs as a critical component of the Federal Government's commitment to future generations and a healthy environment.

Again, I thank Senators DOMENICI and JOHNSTON for their work on this important bill and urge my colleagues to support final passage.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KEMPTHORNE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, with the consent of the manager, if no one is here to offer amendments or speak on the bill, I ask unanimous consent to proceed for 10 minutes as in morning business, with the understanding that if someone comes to present an amendment, I will be happy to relinquish the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DOMENICI. I have no objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator is recognized for 10 minutes.

Mr. DORGAN. I appreciate the courtesy of the managers. Again, business on the bill itself takes precedence. I will not continue if someone comes to do business on this bill.

ELECTIONEERING VERSUS DAY-TO-DAY ISSUES

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I came to the floor today, however, because as has been the case on most days, we have had five Republicans come to the floor today to talk about President Clinton and the White House. I understand that and understand it is an even-numbered year, and the Constitution of the United States provides in even-numbered years that we have elections. On even numbered years when we have elections, clearly there is interest for one side or the other to try to gnaw away and chew away the foundation of the base of the others.

I watch from time to time, as organized groups come to the floor and we

try to respond to them sometimes, those of us on our side of the aisle, to try to set the record straight as best we can. It is pretty hard to keep up with them, because they come in significant waves.

I want to use the time for a couple of minutes to talk about the difference between what we confront in the electioneering, or the political efforts these days, and what the American people expect us to confront in terms of the issues they face day-to-day.

If one were to view the activities from time to time, especially when we get 1 hour or 2 hours set aside for a couple of my friends from the other side of the aisle who then recruit several others, as was the case today, and have five, six or seven people come and repeat a message to try to get that message out to the country, it is kind of like watching beavers build a dam: They slap their tails, they are out there gnawing, chewing and biting and knocking down trees.

In this case, however, it is interesting. These are, it seems to me, political beavers building a dam where there is no water, which I find interesting. Slapping the water and chewing on dead wood seems hardly productive to me, but it is a way to pass the day for some, I suppose.

Most people sitting at home these days look at this political system of ours and say, "Why can't you all work together?" We have an Olympics going on, and in the Olympics, what is interesting is they all wear jerseys, and the jerseys identify one team versus another team.

I particularly have enjoyed watching various sports in the Olympics and, I must confess, I root for all the athletes. I think it is a wonderful thing to see these young men and women, in some cases older men and women, compete, but I, like most others, especially want those people who wear the red, white and blue jerseys to do very well, because they compete with a little logo that says "USA." They are all on the same team.

The American people elect different kinds of men and women to the U.S. House and Senate. My guess is they expect us to all be on the same team. We might all have different techniques, different strengths, and different approaches, but they really do, in the long term, at the end of the day expect us to be working for the same ends.

We can, I suppose, spend most of our energy being critical and chewing away and gnawing away and flailing away, but it hardly seems very productive.

We have been working on a number of things in this Congress which I think are interesting. The Federal deficit: Some say unless you put something in the Constitution, you have not addressed the Federal deficit issue. Yet, the Federal deficit has been coming down, way down, and that is good news.

We have some people who rush to the floor to explain why one person or