

TESTIMONY OF

**Reice Haase, Director, Department of Water Resources**

Chairman Patten, and members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources, I am Reice Haase, the Director of the Department of Water Resources. I'm here today to provide testimony in support House Bill 1025.

This bill calls for a study to look into the feasibility, siting, and deployment of advanced nuclear power plants in North Dakota.

The bill also sets up a committee to oversee the study, with members from the energy industry, the Public Service Commission, the Industrial Commission, and the North Dakota House and Senate.

I'd like to request amending the bill to include a representative from the Department of Water Resources to the committee. A nuclear reactor can require between 400-700 gallons of water per megawatt hour of power produced, which equates to billions of gallons of water needed per year. Since water use will be an important part of planning for advanced nuclear power plants, our department can provide valuable input in that regard.

Thank you for your time and the chance to testify. I'm happy to answer any questions you might have.