

March 27th, 2026

Chris Wright

Secretary

U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

RE: Support for the Utah Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campus (NLIC)

Dear Secretary Wright,

On behalf of the City of Erda, Utah, we are writing to formally convey our strong support for the State of Utah's proposal to host a Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campus (NLIC). As the third-largest municipality in Tooele County and a vital residential hub for the county's industrial workforce, Erda is uniquely positioned to support the long-term success of this initiative.

Our community recognizes that the western desert of Tooele County offers a premier location for the NLIC. This region provides an ideal balance of low population density and high industrial capability. Furthermore, our proximity to critical national security assets like the Tooele Army Depot and Dugway Proving Ground underscores the area's established role in supporting high-stakes federal missions.

Through the framework established by the Utah State Legislature **S.B. 135 (2026 General Session)**, Erda stands ready to collaborate with the U.S. Department of Energy, State of Utah, and Tooele County on this endeavor. We see the NLIC as a generational opportunity to:

- Strengthen the domestic nuclear fuel cycle and reduce national energy dependencies.
- Advance innovative research into the reprocessing and management of used nuclear fuel.
- Leverage our local workforce, which possesses unparalleled experience in handling hazardous and radiological materials.

Erda is committed to a transparent and inclusive public process. Should the U.S. Department of Energy select Utah, we will ensure our residents remain central to the conversation through rigorous planning commission reviews, town halls, and proactive outreach.

We fully endorse the State of Utah's response to the Department's January 28, 2026 Request for Information. We look forward to working alongside your department to secure a sustainable and secure energy future for the United States.

Sincerely,

Sheldon Birch

Erda Council Chair