

**For Immediate Release:** Contact: Chandler Smith

March 4, 2013 202-224-6244

**Heller Statement on Energy Secretary Nominee, Ernest Moniz**

*Identifies Position on Yucca Mountain as a Critical Issue*

**(Washington, D.C.) –** Today, U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) responded to the nomination of Ernest Moniz as Secretary of the Department of Energy with the following statement:

“As a member of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, I look forward to meeting with Mr. Moniz and learning more about his vision for a sound energy policy. I’m particularly interested in his perspective on alternate solutions to dumping the nation’s nuclear waste in Nevada. Yucca Mountain is a threat to public safety; no amount of reassurance from the federal government will convince me or the residents of Nevada otherwise. Given Mr. Moniz’s position on the Blue Ribbon Commission, I hope he agrees with me that Yucca Mountain should remain a closed issue,” said Senator Dean Heller.

###