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14 MR. SANDQUIST: We've had several hearings on
15 private fuel storage in Salt Lake City, and I doubt if
16 we've had more than two rows here, so let me compliment
17 the people of Nevada for being active participants in
18 this public process. Obviously the storage of spent
19 nuclear fuel is an emotional item. I can recognize
20 that and understand it. I am a Professor of Mechanical
21 Engineering. I have been at the University of Utah for
22 nearly 40 years. I have been involved with underground
23 weapons testing, providing community radiation
24 monitoring of these activities and such.

25 Right now we're confronted with some energy

0046

1 problems, as you're well aware in this country.
2 California has some significant problems. They're
3 easing, but that's because people are taking concern.
4 But over the next 10 to 20 years, we have to face a
5 critical issue in this country. How are we going to
6 provide electrical power? That's something that I
7 think the American people are not going to go without.
8 We want electrical power. I kiddingly told my wife
9 would she be willing to give up her washing machine and

10 wash her clothes in the bathtub and wash dishes in the
11 sink? She said she'd rather give me up.

550675

12 Anyway, electrical power is essential to us.
13 20 percent of our electrical power comes from nuclear.
14 That's not to say what the impact is in this sense, in
15 this country, or in this state, let's say from that
16 point of view. But you're tied into an interstate
17 grid, and it's very important.

18 Greenhouse gases and global warming are
19 significant issues. Nevada is a state that needs water
20 desperately, and has some real problems with electrical
21 power. We have to help the West. In order to resolve
22 this issue associated with nuclear power, we have to
23 find a place to store spent nuclear fuel. Right now
24 it's being stored --

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Not here.

0047

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How about Utah?

2 MR. SANDQUIST: Maybe it will be going to
3 Utah.

4 MODERATOR LAWSON: Hold it. Hold it.

5 MR. SANDQUIST: Please, if I could have your
6 attention. I know this is bringing up an emotional

7 issue. We proposed that 40,000 metrics tons --

550675

8 MODERATOR LAWSON: Excuse me. If I hear any
9 more outbreaks, I'm going to have to stop and until we
10 can have order here. I want to have every speaker have
11 the respect of everyone in the room. And so we're
12 going to continue. Mr. Sandquist, please.

13 (APPLAUSE)

14 MR. SANDQUIST: Utah is being considered for
15 the temporary storage, up to 40 years of 40,000 metric
16 tons of depleted, spent nuclear fuel. We have no
17 nuclear plants in Utah. We do receive electrical power
18 from the nuclear grid. But anyway, let me continue.
19 We've -- we need to have a place to store this spent
20 nuclear fuel. It's already there. It isn't a matter
21 of wishing and desiring for it to go away. It's in 70
22 different locations throughout the country. It has to
23 be resolved.

24 Now, who has decided or made this decision
25 from the point of view that Yucca Mountain might be a
0048

1 reasonable place to store it? The National Academy of
2 Scientists. The United States' best scientific brains
3 that sit for the country have looked at this and said

4 -- now maybe you don't really rely on them, but they
5 make other very important decisions. Thank you.
6 Besides that, the Congress, which you elect and maybe
7 you don't like all of the Congressmen, but the Congress
8 in '82 and '87 both decided through the Nuclear Waste
9 Policy Acts that we needed to store this material, and
10 after considering it, Yucca Mountain is a very
11 attractive place to store this. Let me briefly --

550675

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Attractive, that's the
13 way we want to keep it.

14 MODERATOR LAWSON: I'm going to give him
15 extra time, because you're eating into his time.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thought this was
17 supposed to be for Nevadans.

18 MODERATOR LAWSON: Excuse me, you're out of
19 order, and I don't want to take the action that is in
20 my discretion to do it. Everybody -- I don't want --
21 just -- wait a minute. Wait a minute. Just think of
22 what's fair here. I don't want anybody in this
23 audience or who's up here speaking being heckled so he
24 reduces the time of that speaker and everyone else.
25 Heckling for one person, you don't want it in the other

0049

1 direction either. Let's just proceed and move right
2 along.

550675

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is he a Nevada
4 citizen?

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What's your
6 affiliation?

7 MODERATOR LAWSON: There is no --

8 MR. SANDQUIST: I'll be happy to tell you
9 that. I'm a Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the
10 University of Utah. I have spent many years in Nevada.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Are you a Nevada
12 resident?

13 MR. SANDQUIST: No, I am not a Nevada
14 resident.

15 MODERATOR LAWSON: Okay.

16 MR. SANDQUIST: Let me just say, true
17 education -- we have many Nevada students who come to
18 the University of Utah to learn. True education is
19 listening to all sides, not making up your mind.
20 Listening to the facts, making a scientific, rational
21 decision. Not letting bias make decisions. So that's
22 what I'm here and trying to present to you in a sense,
23 is a different point of view. You may not disagree

24 with it, and I appreciate and understand it, but we do

25 have an energy crisis. We do have 20 percent of our

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1 electrical power coming from nuclear. We must store

2 the spent nuclear fuel somewhere.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If you're being paid

4 to say this, can you identify yourself, please?

5 MODERATOR LAWSON: Please, really, I'm very

6 serious about this. I will close this meeting and go

7 to the other sites if I can't have the respect --

8 it's --

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Go ahead.

10 MODERATOR LAWSON: Continue. Continue.

11 (AUDIENCE YELLING)

12 MODERATOR LAWSON: Okay, okay -- I'm sorry,

13 you have -- that's it. I'm going to call -- are we

14 ready to go to one of the other sites?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: This is supposed to be

16 for Nevadans. It's a joke.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's a Nevada problem.

18 It's for Nevada. It's a joke. You lie.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Throw everybody out.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's right.

550675

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Close the meeting.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Let him finish.

550675

23 MR. SANDQUIST: I thought it was a public
24 meeting, and I thought it was open to many ideas and
25 discussion, and if that's not the case, then --

0051

1 please --

2 MODERATOR LAWSON: Okay, please. Please, let
3 him finish, and then we'll go on to other speakers.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Close the whole
5 meeting.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Let him speak.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Go back to Utah.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: In a real hearing, you
9 have cross-examination of witnesses. We don't have any
10 cross-examination here.

11 MODERATOR LAWSON: Excuse me, we have a
12 person here who'd like to speak for just one second.
13 He asked me if he could speak.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't agree with
15 this point of view or his side of it. But I want my
16 fair time. And I feel like he should have his.

17 (APPLAUSE)

18 Everybody gets a chance to speak.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't want to hear
20 it from four locations. It's inappropriate.

550675

21 MODERATOR LAWSON: Go ahead, sir, finish.
22 You have two minutes.

23 MR. SANDQUIST: 20 percent of our power comes
24 from nuclear, that's a fact. We have spent nuclear
25 fuel which must be disposed of. Utah is being
0052

1 considered as a temporary storage for up to 40 years of
2 40,000 metric tons of this material. The
3 transportation impacts upon Utah will be very
4 significant. Most of that spent fuel will move through
5 Utah, even if it does not go to Nevada, even if the
6 site is not found to be acceptable. We must face up to
7 that, and it's an important issue. Are you people
8 willing to forgo 20 percent of your electrical power,
9 are you willing to ask for global warming?

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, 20 percent.

11 MR. SANDQUIST: Let me comment. Nevada,
12 Las Vegas is the fastest growing city in the United
13 States. From the point of view of electrical power
14 consumption, here is extremely heavy. It will cut back

15 on your industry, gambling will go down the tube from
16 that point of view. You'll have a lot of impacts if we
17 forgo electrical power. It's interesting. And I do
18 not, as a resident of Utah, I do not permit or
19 decide -- I do not feel it's appropriate to allow all
20 of that electrical power to be produced by coal and
21 ship it to Nevada, the electrical power in California.
22 So anyway, it's a public hearing. Let me present my
23 side. I think it's an issue that we have to face up
24 to. I recognize that it is not popular. There are
25 many people who oppose it, and I can understand, there

550675

0053

1 are many people in Utah who oppose private fuel
2 storage. But it's an important issue. It's perhaps in
3 a sense like the Second World War, or Korean War.
4 Others -- there were many who opposed that, but part of
5 the national will, it's necessary to make a decision.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That doesn't compare.

7 MODERATOR LAWSON: 30 seconds.

8 MR. SANDQUIST: Anyway, please consider that
9 that large fraction of electrical power comes from
10 there. The best scientific brains in the country have
11 looked at this, and the National Academy of Scientists

550675

12 and others have resolved and decided -- and let me
13 just, as a brief last mention, about 2 billion years
14 ago in a small province in South Africa, nature put
15 together a natural reactor. It operated for 100,000
16 years and deposited its radioactive materials right on
17 the ground. After 2 billion years, on the surface,
18 these radioactive materials have not moved more than a
19 few hundred meters over 2 billion years. Do you think
20 mankind has the ability to put it underground, above
21 the water table a thousand feet and below the Yucca
22 Mountain range a thousand feet, and hold it for 10,000
23 years?

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

25 MR. SANDQUIST: Thank you for your time and attention.