

900 Serenity Pl.

Reno 89510

Sept. 20, 2001

To: Carol Hanlon
U.S. Dept. of Energy

RECEIVED

OCT 1 - 2001

Written comments re. the possible recommendation that Yucca Mountain become the site for high-level nuclear waste storage.

Using the suggested topics list provided by the Dept. of Energy:

The Dept. of Energy has not provided scientific documents to show that the Yucca Mountain site is suitable. What has been shown is that the area is earthquake prone, water migration is present and geothermal upwelling is also present.

The Secretary cannot determine that the radiation protection standards have been met under the existing guidelines, since it has been shown that they can not be met. Radiation exposure standards are currently under litigation as the government attempts to introduce new, ^{more relaxed} suitability guidelines.

For any of these reasons the President would be forced to conclude that the project should not go

(1)

forward.

The Department's obligation is to leave the waste on site and immediately focus on how to detoxify the poisonous material. The development of more toxic residue should be stopped while a massive effort is made to that end.

We do NOT need nuclear energy to power the country. There are many measures that can be taken (renewables, conservation etc.) to eliminate that supposed need.

These hearings are a sham. There is no final EIS or siting guidelines. The public is being asked to comment on something that does not exist. This on top of the timing of the hearings - short notice, extremely large amounts of technical data to be reviewed. The intent of NEPA has already been side-stepped and the Waste Policy Act violated. The DOE is counting on a lethargic public to ram their wishes into existence.

The perception that the only area to be affected would be a remote barren desert is laughably

naive. The whole country will have the potential for disaster shuttling through its backyards. After 9/11/01, the Baltimore train wreck this past summer, numerous stories of trucks driving unscheduled routes with leaking containers of low level nuclear waste, it behooves the DOE, our Vice President and all those pushing us down this roller coaster to disaster to STOP and show some concern for the long range future of this planet.

551055

Betsy Gleathill

(My computer is broken - I wanted to meet the deadline for comments so handwriting seemed expedient.)

(3)