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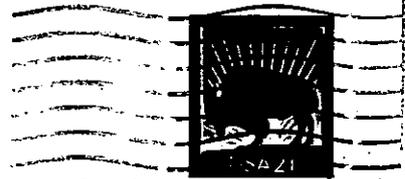
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**Comments on the DOE's Preliminary Recommendation
of a Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Repository**

How can the Secretary of Energy be preparing to recommend Yucca Mountain for a high-level nuclear waste dump when thousands of public comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement have not been addressed and key documents have not been finalized? In the absence of a Final Environmental Impact Statement, a Nuclear Regulatory Commission review, and a detailed proposal for transporting nuclear waste to Nevada, the Department of Energy lacks a basis for consideration of site suitability. The public cannot have confidence in any recommendation that arises from such a dramatically flawed process. I urge you to abandon the Yucca Mountain Project.

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