

United States Department of Energy Office of Public Affairs

Las Vegas, NV 89134

News Media Contact: Allen Benson, (702) 794-1322 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** July 28, 2008

DOE Donates Hundreds of Computers to Rural Nevada Schools

LAS VEGAS, NV – Just in time for the start of a new school year, the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Yucca Mountain Project today donated more than 750 computers, laptops and flat-screen monitors to rural Nevada school districts and the Timbisha Shoshone Indian Tribe.

Representatives from the districts and the Tribe chose their equipment from 38 pallets being stored at the DOE's warehouse in Las Vegas.

"We wish we could put computers in every classroom that needs one," said DOE spokesman Allen Benson. "It's part of DOE's mission to help educate future scientists and engineers."

The equipment, most of it less than 5 years old, was worth more than \$740,000 when it was purchased.

Districts receiving equipment include Churchill, Lander, Mineral and White Pine Counties, NV, and the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe.

By executive order, government agencies give highest preference to schools and non-profit organizations when dealing with excess or surplus equipment.

The Yucca Mountain Project is America's first planned repository for spent nuclear fuel and highlevel radioactive waste. The Project submitted a license application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in June. The Project employs about 1,100 people, mostly in Southern Nevada and Washington, DC.

For more information on DOE's Yucca Mountain Program visit: <u>www.ocrwm.doe.gov</u>

YMP 08-03

-DOE-