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## **DOE To Host “Open House” At Yucca Mountain Site**

-- Saturday, November 3 --

Washington, DC – U.S. Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham announced today that the Department of Energy will hold an open house at the Yucca Mountain Project on Saturday, November 3, 2001 for those citizens wishing to visit the facility and to speak with project scientists and engineers about the ongoing work at the site.

“I have previously indicated that I would review suggestions about additional public involvement. One important way we can increase the quality and scope of information available to the public is to allow those citizens who wish to see the site for themselves to do so at an ‘open house.’ The ‘open house’ will provide citizens with an important opportunity to learn more about the science and engineering work being conducted at the Yucca Mountain site. In addition, citizens will be able to ask our scientist and engineers questions regarding the project,” said Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham.

The open house will run from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Department will provide transportation. No personal transportation is permitted to and from the open house.

Visitors will be permitted to walk inside the Yucca Mountain Project’s Exploratory Studies Facility (an underground tunnel used for scientific experiments), travel to the 5,000-foot-high Yucca Mountain crest, and visit the tunnel-boring machine. In addition, a state-of-the-art spent nuclear fuel transportation cask will be on-site for public viewing and experts will be available to address citizens’ questions regarding a variety of issues.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Buses for the open house will leave from three locations: Las Vegas, Pahrump, and Beatty, Nevada.

- **Las Vegas:** buses will leave from the Las Vegas Science Center ( 4101-B Meadows Lane) every 15 minutes between 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m, and returning from the site between 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.
- **Pahrump:** buses will leave the Pahrump Science Center (1141 S. Highway 160), every 30 minutes between 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., returning from the site between 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

**MORE**

- **Beatty:** two buses will leave the Beatty Science Center (100 North E Ave.), at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., returning at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Lunch may be purchased at the Yucca Mountain site.

**MEDIA:** A media bus will leave the Las Vegas Science Center promptly at 9:00 a.m. and will depart Yucca Mountain promptly at 2:30 p.m. Media wishing to attend the open house must register 24 hours in advance. Due to security arrangements of the Nevada Test Site, media must present recognized and approved media credentials. Certain requirements regarding photography and recording equipment apply. Please call Yucca Mountain Public Affairs regarding these requirements

**VISITOR REQUIREMENTS:** Visitors must be at least 14 years old and citizens of the United States. Visitors will be required to present photo identification. Reservations are highly recommended, and interested persons may call 1-800-225-6972. Long pants, closed toe shoes, and shirts with sleeves are required. No recording devices, cameras, binoculars or weapons are allowed on the Nevada Test Site. Visitors and belongings are subject to security search and screening.

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