

20 JOHN HUSTON: My name is John Huston. Jan and I
21 spend a lot of time in Caliente. [We live in Las Vegas. |
22 One of the things that -- sort of echoes the prior
23 comment -- in reading this document that sort of impacted
24 me was the fact that there are not hearings, really
25 significant number of hearings outside the area of

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1 Washington, D.C. and someplace on the West Coast, because I
2 think people in Las Vegas, if they knew that the Caliente
3 route meant that there was a real possibility of nuclear
4 waste coming through Las Vegas -- whereas the Mina route
5 does not include that sort of projection by the DOE --
6 would be absolutely amazed that the choice of route between
7 Caliente and Mina had that sort of impact.

8 I know the mayor of Las Vegas at one point in
9 time said he'd stand in the middle of the interstate
10 highway to stop trucks coming through town. I don't
11 know what he's going to think about the possibility of
12 rail haul coming past the 47 million dollars of
13 construction that he's got going on down there.

14 That's really not a Caliente issue, but it
15 does show, I think, the fact that there is very little
16 in terms of broad-based information and in terms of
17 consideration by the public at large.

18 A lot of these rail lines run through
19 St. Louis, they run through Salt Lake. Most all the
20 traffic comes through Salt Lake in one fashion or

21 another from the north. And so there are a lot of other
22 people involved here that are not going to be here
23 tonight that may not be at the table at any one point in
24 time.]

25 [The reason that that also sort of came to mind

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1 is that I didn't understand, and it is confusing reading
2 the document the nexus between the railroad and the
3 repository and whether or not there's a possibility that
4 this railroad would be approved, funded, and built and
5 yet no nuclear waste would ever go to Yucca Mountain.]

6 [And there is this shared rail usage that's
7 been talked about. And right now there's a few users
8 potentially of rail other than the military at the
9 Test Site. This rail is going to practically go around
10 that situation. So by default, is this a military
11 railroad? I haven't seen anything about the DOD
12 involved here or see those sort of comments.]

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13 [The last thing I'd say is that -- and I
14 understand some the debate over this pelletization of
15 the waste and these canisters and that sort of thing,
16 but there's no discussion about the fact that
17 Meadow Valley Wash is in the Colorado River drainage.
18 Ultimately that's a water supply for 20 million people.

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19 The Mina route would not bring that waste back
20 into the Colorado River Basin. The Caliente route does
21 do that. And so from that standpoint, it doesn't seem

22 like there's been very much consideration at all given
23 to watershed and routing this rail with referred to
24 watershed and that sort of thing.] Thank you.