

1 GARY DUARTE: Good evening. [My name is Gary 1
2 Duarte, Director of U.S. Nuclear Energy, a nonprofit
3 501(c)(3) foundation. I have been a Sparks resident
4 for over 25 years. And our mission with U.S. Nuclear
5 Energy is to influence change in public opinion
6 towards knowledgeable citizens about nuclear energy
7 and waste repository issues.

8 We strongly believe it is very important to
9 educate our citizens based on scientific majority and
10 we bring our message to the public via our scientific
11 presentations so that citizens can understand our
12 need to advance nuclear technology in America.
13 Nuclear energy and the Yucca Mountain repository have
14 very far-reaching progressive implications to the
15 future economy, business diversification and
16 technological future for the educational system and
17 commerce growth in Nevada. Our goal is to help
18 citizens and economic community to understand a
19 visionary potential for our future.

20 In the U.S. over the past 30 years 2700
21 shipments of spent nuclear fuel have been completed
22 safely by both government and private industry.
23 Worldwide more than 70,000 metric tons have been
24 transported in 20,000 casks. As responsible
25 citizens, we must think beyond our backyard, the
1 city, the state and even our U.S. government. Spent
2 nuclear waste is growing on a worldwide scale and
3 America must participate in the transportation and
4 storage technology as an expanding scientific

5 revolution to these challenges.

6 The construction of a railroad system for
7 Yucca Mountain is a billion dollar project, an
8 opportunity to diversify Nevada's economy. It is
9 also my understanding that the Department of Energy
10 plans to allow a shared use of the system for other
11 commerce transportation.

12 The DOE indicates that the rail shipment
13 method is the quickest and most preferred spent fuel
14 transportation scenario. I agree with this choice
15 and I urge Nevada's citizens to support approval,
16 funding and construction of this railroad as soon as
17 possible.

18 Nevada politicians, the media and other
19 factions of the state have opposed this nuclear
20 repository for reasons other than pure science. Our
21 mission is bringing science to citizens to empower
22 them with sufficient knowledge to make informed
23 logical decisions about the science study of Yucca
24 Mountain.

25 The media has not provided equal time to
proponents of nuclear energy and the Yucca Mountain
2 repository and this propagates a misleading
3 representation of the issues to Nevada's citizens and
4 America. Yucca Mountain is not only a Nevada
5 environment, it's something that affects every other
6 state in this country.

7 Opposition to the 20 year study of Yucca

8 Mountain defies logic, to me. We challenge any
9 opposing people to prove the instability of Yucca
10 Mountain as a nuclear repository to the majority of
11 scientists who have proven it is the best repository
12 location and choice for America's nuclear waste
13 material.

14 Having toured Yucca Mountain in 2006, the
15 scientific analysis applied to this tough volcanic
16 rock mountain is astounding. I've seen an entire
17 room of documents that have been studied for years
18 and years and years and it certainly impressed me.
19 Anyone reviewing this science applied to study in the
20 site who comes away pessimistic or in opposite
21 position to its construction has to be lagging in
22 common sense, average logic or both and I challenge
23 them to prove otherwise.

24 I urge the Department of Energy and the
25 citizens of Nevada to contact their representatives
1 to move forward with approving the licensing and
2 construction of the Yucca Mountain Project and its
3 transportation railroad system.

4 I would like to compliment the DOE on the
5 simplified repository design which help the exposure
6 of nuclear workers and improve the overall safety.
7 Also, the modified transportation.]

8 Anyone wishing further information can
9 contact U.S. Nuclear Energy at
10 www.usnuclearenergy.org and we'll be happy to provide
11 additional information for your review. Thank you.

12 Goodnight.