

November 14, 2007

United States Department of Energy

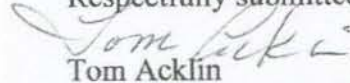
Dear Sirs,

After a review of the EIS report submitted by your Department, I offer my support.

- 1 [As a representative of the City of Caliente, I base my conclusions on what will be most beneficial for Caliente and the residents of the City of Caliente. That which benefits Caliente, also benefits Lincoln County and the State of Nevada, However, not everything beneficial to the County filters down to the City of Caliente. I see the Caliente Rail Corridor having a positive economic impact on the City, the residents, the County, and the State of Nevada. After having spent several days in Carlsbad, New Mexico, touring the low level nuclear waste facility, the City, and attending numerous seminars with presentations by current, as well as past city officials and residents, my conclusion was that the benefits to the City of Carlsbad were astronomical. I did not hear any negative comments on impacts to the community. Their infrastructure was greatly enhanced and the economy was booming. Granted, their situation is different than Caliente's as they are the final destination and not an interim location. Still, I see great things happening in Caliente and Lincoln County.]
- 2 [My recommendation for the proposed rail route would be the DOE Proposed Route which leaves the Union Pacific main line in Caliente and proceeds along the road bed which used to service Pioche/Castleton, formerly known as the Pioche Branch of the Union Pacific Rail Road.]
- 3 [I see this route as having the least impact on existing structures if the Rail yard was placed in the meadow on the east side of 93, between Antelope Canyon and Indian Cove. With few exceptions, this will not impact that portion of the route any more than the old Pioche Branch of the Union Pacific did. I feel that if the adverse impacts are mitigated wherever possible, that in a short period of time every one and everything will adapt. With all of the impacts that occurred during the building of the Inter-Continental RXR, we are still here.]
- 4 [I feel that the DOE and all other Federal Agencies involved should work closely with local government as well as affected property owners in an effort to mitigate the negative impacts and enhance the positive. The City of Caliente and Lincoln County have been in support of this endeavor from the beginning, though the present, and will continue with this support.]
- 5 [I would also encourage that DOE locate the Nuclear Waste Tracking Facility, as well as one of the RXR Track Maintenance Facilities in Caliente. Again, I see this as a boon to the economy and life styles of the residents of our City, County, State, and at the same time make our great Nation safer.]
- 6 With the cost of oil approaching \$100 a barrel, there is an urgent need for a more economical means to produce our power. [Present technology leaves nuclear power plants

as the most efficient means of producing electricity, having the least impact on the environment. It is imperative that the existing nuclear waste be moved to a secure location as soon as possible. I see this as a matter of national security.]

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Acklin".

Tom Acklin

City of Caliente Council
Member