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RRR000555

To: EIS_Comments@ymp.gov
CC:
Subject: EIS Comment

User Filed as: Not Categorized in ERMS

January 07, 2008 08:42:21

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The Commentors Name:
---> Mr. Kevin R. Emmerich

The Commentors Address:
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Comment Text :
--> January 7, 2008

EIS Office
US Department of Energy
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
1551 Hillshire Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89134

CC: Senator Harry Reid

To Whom it May Concern,

Please accept the following comments on the Draft Nevada Rail Corridor SEIS
and Draft Rail Alignment EIS:

- 1 Water: [The EIS admits that construction of this boondoggle will use 6,100 acre feet for the Caliente Corridor and 5,950 acre feet for the Mina Corridor. Such a big waste of groundwater will impact wildlife, springs and the livelihood of rural agriculture. DOE should not be considering such a waste of this resource.]
- 2 Private Land: [The EIS admits that it would need to take 178 acres of private

land for the Caliente Corridor and 146 acres for the Mina Corridor. It does not even mention the disturbances to Coffey Ranch in Oasis Valley. Later in the EIS the DOE has the nerve to suggest these are low impacts. As you know and will not admit, private land owners will not willingly agree to this. It is obvious the DOE will strong arm these people with imminent domain, but will not mention this in the EIS. What a cowardly way to rob people of their lives.]

- 3 Biological Resources: [The EIS admits that there will be obvious disturbances to mountain lions, bighorn sheep, pronghorn antelope, desert tortoise, mule deer and wild horses and burros. It will also cross riparian areas in the Mina route disturbing Lahontan cutthroat trout. It states that impacts will be low, but has little information on these impacts. There is no mention of possible disturbance to the Amargosa (Bufo nelsoni) as the route crosses the Amargosa River in Oasis Valley. This needs to be rewritten and researched more. Do your job.]
- 4 Air Quality: [There is not enough information on the amount of dust that will be kicked up during construction. Rewrite.]
- 5 Safety and Homeland Security: [Three years ago, DOE came to our property in an attempt to answer our questions about this route that will be less than three miles from our house. When we asked about the potential threat of terrorists trying to take radioactive material from the railroad, DOE employee Robin Sweeny simply said, "Why would they want to do that?" They also said "Who would want to blow up this rural place?" This is the attitude we got from the professional staff of DOE and Betchel. I see that DOE put a little more info in the EIS.] [We also asked Robin how DOE would inform us and evacuate the area in case of an accident. Her answer was, "There won't be an accident". The EIS does not say what DOE would do in case of an accident. THIS NEEDS TO BE ADDED TO THE EIS!!! The EIS does admit that so many will die from radiation exposure, by giving actual numbers. It seems rather obvious that none of you really care about our safety.]
- 6
- 7 Shared Use: [Why on Earth would the DOE allow commercial users to share the train? If you are really concerned about security, terrorism and public health, this risk is not worth taking. The Nye County commissioners who support this fiasco, Joni Eastly and Gary Hollis, are corrupt and DO NOT represent the interests of most of the residents of Nye County. Take this option out of the EIS now!]
- 8 American Indian Interests: [The DOE's behaviour to the Shoshone has been nothing short of disgraceful. Yucca Mountain is sacred to them. This should have stopped DOE from the beginning. All I can say is you should be ashamed of yourselves.]
- 9 Aesthetics: [DOE continues to falsely state that the visual impacts will be low by using arbitrary BLM visual class designations. There will be ugly visual impacts. Stop trying to tell us what is beautiful. Towns like Beatty are trying to save their economy with tourism by promoting scenic beauty. A nuclear waste dump will destroy this possibility.]
- 10 In your conclusion, [you falsely state that impacts to all of the above subjects will be low. This is not how most of the local people who actually know and love the area see it. Keep your toxic radiation OUT of Nevada!!!]

Thank you,

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