

To:

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cc;

Subject: Yucca Mountain

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The Western Shoshone Nation is unanimously opposed to President George Bush's plan to expedite storing high level nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain, a plan that would not only endanger their Nation and the people of Nevada, but put 50 million Americans along nuclear waste transportation routes in jeopardy of deadly radioactive exposure.

I stand in solidarity with the Western Shoshone Nation in opposing approval of Yucca Mountain as a federal nuclear waste repository. I strongly urge you to support the state of Nevada in vetoing the recommendation President Bush has issued to approve Yucca Mountain as a nuclear waste dump.

Nuclear waste is the most deadly substance created by humankind and remains deadly for tens of thousands of years. A decision to authorize a federal repository should not be made on the basis of politics or the desires of a corrupt energy lobby, but should be made on sound science and ethics. Yucca Mountain is volcanic. Evidence shows radioactivity could leak into underground aquifers at the site. This is not a safe place to store high level nuclear waste. And moving nuclear waste across the country from nuclear power plants in the east to remote Indian land in the west endangers all Americans with the threat of a nuclear accident on our highways and rails.

What is left out of the nuclear waste debate is the fact that Yucca Mountain is on Indian land; land guaranteed the Western Shoshone Nation in a treaty of peace and friendship. The mountain is sacred to the original peoples of Nevada. Approving this site for the storage of nuclear waste is illegal, immoral and a blatant example of environmental injustice.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Cashel 1239 U Steet NW Washington, DC 20009