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To	FIS office		From	Teri Dillion		
Co./Dept.	US DoE		Co.			
Phone #			Phone #	720 352-2027		
Fax #	1-800-967-0739		Fax #			

January 8, 2008

Jane R. Summerson and M. Lee Bishop
 Environmental Impact Statement Office, U.S. Department of Energy
 Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
 1551 Hillshire Drive
 Las Vegas, NV 89134

RRR000561

Re: Comments on draft Repository Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and draft Nevada Rail Corridor/Alignment Environmental Impact Statement


Dear Ms. Summerson and Mr. Bishop,

I have identified several issues regarding both documents [(DOE) draft Repository Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) and draft Nevada Rail Corridor/Alignment Environmental Impact Statement] that are very troubling and should be addressed by the DOE in the course of developing both Final Environmental Impact Statements. (EIS).

1 [The Yucca Mountain site is not acceptable for storing nuclear waste. It is very risky and a poor choice as a storage repository, due to unpredictable weather and geological patterns expected in that area. In addition, Yucca Mountain is a sacred site for the local Native American tribes, most especially the Timbisha and other Western Shoshone tribes. The SEIS also omits the ongoing dispute and litigation involving the United States' violation of the 1863 Treaty of Ruby Valley with the Western Shoshone which clearly defines territorial borders for their nation of Newe Sogobia as well outside the proposed land withdrawal. This treaty was fully ratified by Congress. In April of 2004, the United Nation's Committee to End Racial Discrimination upheld the Shoshone claim in a record decision, and their declaration clearly identifies the Yucca Mountain Repository as one of several ongoing serious human rights violations by the United States against the Western Shoshone Nation.]

2 [There are serious risks associated with the 'disposing' and transportation of nuclear waste. One of the most deadly waste materials on earth, nuclear waste should be stored on-site, in retrievable casks, and not transported across the country. There is an extremely high likelihood that there will be adverse impacts to the drinking water supply, impacts from truck transport of nuclear waste, socio-economic impacts, impacts to cultural resources, and environmental justice issues.]

A nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain creates a false sense of security for using nuclear energy while we should be focusing on alternative renewable energy sources. This project is unacceptable. It is unethical and based on ignorance of basic geographical science. Our grandchildren will wonder why we were so shortsighted in making decisions that affect many future generations.]

Sincerely,

 Teri Dillion
 Boulder, Colorado