



RRR000876

TO: EIS Office U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Mgmt
1551 Hillshire Dr.
Las Vegas, NV, 89195-7308

Comments concerning Yucca Mountain as a repository for high-level nuclear waste:

Dear Sirs:

We, the Board of Directors of the Northeast Pa. Audubon Society, representing about 600 members, hereby submit our comments concerning the proposed Yucca Mountain High-level radioactive waste repository:

1 [We oppose the opening of the Yucca Mountain High-Level Waste Repository for the following reasons:]

2 [Use of Yucca Mountain as a waste repository by the U.S. Government will be in violation of the 1863 Treaty of "Peace and Friendship" of Ruby Valley, that recognizes Yucca Mountain and surrounding lands as belonging to the Western Shoshone people. The Organization of American States has repeatedly upheld claims by the Shoshone against the United States. We demand that the U.S. government honor its treaty commitments by not using Yucca Mountain as a waste repository.]

1 cont [Yucca Mountain is not suitable or stable for radioactive waste storage. Numerous fault lines run through it. Water percolation will threaten the surrounding aquifer. The government has falsified documents and downgraded regulations to justify its suitability as a safe place for high-level radioactive waste storage.

- Shipping nuclear waste through approximately 44 states to reach the proposed repository is hazardous to the health and welfare of the citizens and the environment of the U.S. There will be heightened risk of accidents and terrorist acts. Holding waste in rail yards for up to a year as allowed by your proposal is unacceptable for these same reasons. Northeast Pennsylvania is a major radioactive waste transportation route from New England to Nevada, creating a serious threat to our region, raising the risk of catastrophic accident or terrorist attack.

We recognize the need to isolate the nuclear waste we have already generated in this country. We recommend that the existing on-site waste at current nuclear power plants be put in retrievable dry cask above-ground storage at or near existing nuclear power plants until a safer alternative to Yucca Mountain can be found.

We call for an immediate moratorium on nuclear power generation in the United States until technology is found to safely isolate the wastes from the biosphere for the entire radioactive life of said wastes. We call for the U.S. government to stop using taxpayer money to subsidize the nuclear industry, and re-direct those monies to conservation and sustainable energy technologies.]

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Katharine Dodge, Energy Chair, for the Board of Directors
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