

Untitled

16 JENNA MORTON: My name is Jenna, J-E-N-N-A,
17 Morton, M-O-R-T-O-N. I'm a resident of Las Vegas. I'm the
18 mother of Eli, E-L-I, Pierre, P-I-E-R-R-E, and Petra,
19 P-E-T-R-A. I'm a businesswoman. I am an owner of the N9NE
20 Group, which includes N9NE Steakhouse, Ghostbar, Rain,
21 Moon, Nove Italiano, and the Playboy Club. I am also a
22 board member of Citizen Alert.

23 I'm making comments today on behalf of my
24 family and my 600 employees. My comments also reflect
25 the concerns of many members of the Las Vegas business

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1 community. Our properties at the Palms Hotel and Casino
2 are located less than one-half mile from the Union
3 Pacific mainline railroad, which DOE has proposed using
4 for nuclear waste ships to Yucca Mountain.

5 There are two critical issues. First, nuclear
6 waste is extremely dangerous. Second, if Yucca Mountain
7 goes forward, DOE will make thousands of nuclear waste
8 shipments through Las Vegas. Peggy Maze Johnson of
9 Citizen Alert has addressed radiological hazards in her
10 comments. My comments address the shipments through
11 Las Vegas.

12 My comments today are directed to both the DOE
13 EIS for a rail line to Yucca Mountain and to the DOE
14 Supplement to the EIS for Yucca Mountain. DOE has
15 indicated that one out of every 20 rail shipments to
16 Yucca Mountain would travel through downtown Las Vegas.

17 However, it is possible that almost 90 percent

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18 of the rail shipments could travel through Las Vegas to
19 the Caliente rail spur. That could mean two or more
20 train loads per week, every week, for four decades.

21 The Union Pacific mainline travels through the
22 Las Vegas metropolitan area for about 36 miles. Many of
23 the largest and best-known Las Vegas hotel-casinos are
24 within a mile and a half of the railroad. Some are
25 within the 800-meter exposure zone for routine

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1 radiation.

2 On the attached map, I have marked the
3 location of our properties. Along this segment of the
4 route, several major hotel-casinos are actually less
5 than 400 meters or one-quarter mile from the railroad,
6 and some hotel-casino parking lots are within 60 meters
7 or 200 feet.

8 When the school population, workers, and
9 hotel/casino guests are added in, the average daily
10 exposed population within one-half mile of the rail
11 route would be about 86,000, at any hour on any day.

12 DOE also plans to make thousands of truck
13 shipments through Las Vegas. Even if most of the waste
14 is shipped by rail, there could still be 3,000 truck
15 shipments over four decades. If no railroad were
16 constructed, there would be about 109,000 truck
17 shipments through Las Vegas.

18 If the railroad delayed for six years, DOE
19 could make 10,000 or more shipments through Las Vegas.
20 Truck shipments to Yucca Mountain would travel through

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21 the Las Vegas metropolitan area I-215, I-15, and
22 U.S. 95. A map of those routes is attached.

23 I have marked the location of my family's
24 home, where my infant daughter Petra will be growing up
25 only a few steps from the elevated exposure zone. I

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1 have also marked the location of Eli's and Pierre's.
2 Their schools are smack-dab in the middle of the
3 elevated exposure zone.

4 They and their schoolmates would have to be
5 evacuated in the event of a severe accident or incident.
6 I understand that the probability of such an event is
7 low. However, the consequences of even one event would
8 be unacceptable to me.

9 So, in your EIS, if you find that my infant
10 daughter Petra's health and well-being is placed in one
11 iota of jeopardy, you must come to the conclusion that
12 this project is environmentally unsound and
13 unacceptable. The end.