

015072



webserver@yucca-web1.ymp.gov on 12/12/2006 01:54:12 PM

065072

To: EIS\_Comments@notes.ymp.gov

cc:

Subject: ANOI Rail Comment

User Filed as: Not Categorized in ERMS

December 12, 2006 13:54:12

IP address: 70.91.66.5

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The Commentors Name:

---> Kevin J Kamps

~~~~~  
The Commentors Address:

--->6930 Carroll Ave., Ste. 340

--->Takoma Park, District of Columbia 20912

~~~~~  
Email Information:

--->kevin@nirs.org

---> Add commentor to the mailing list : yes

~~~~~  
Contact Information:

---> fax number : 3012704291

---> phone number : 3012706477

---> organization : NIRS

---> position : Nuclear Waste Specialist

~~~~~  
Comment Text :

-->[I attempted to submit this comment via fax, but your fax line was busy. Thus, I am sending it via this web form. Please note that I am submitting this comment on behalf of several organizations in several states, all of which are submitting this comment to you.]

December 12, 2006

Mr. M. Lee Bishop, EIS Document Manager

Office of Logistics Management

Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management

U.S. Department of Energy

1551 Hillshire Drive, M/S 011

Las Vegas, NV 89134

Re: Comments on DOE's Amended Notice of Intent To Expand the Scope of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Alignment, Construction, and Operation of a Rail Line to a Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, NV

The undersigned environmental, public interest, and consumer groups submit the following comments on the scoping of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Alignment, Construction, and Operation of a Rail Line to a Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, NV, as noticed by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in the Federal Register on October 13, 2006 (Volume 71, Number 198, pages 60484-60490).

Due to the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Yucca FEIS (Final EIS) proposal to ship irradiated nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste through 45 states and the District of Columbia, TADs (so-called "Transport, Aging, and Disposal" canisters) on the roads (on heavy haul trucks), rails, and waterways (on barges, in rail-sized casks), would impact nearly the entire country.

It will take time to inform people living in other parts of the U.S. (outside of Nevada and Washington, D.C., where DOE hearings were held, albeit with inadequate public notice and insufficient information available to the public to make meaningful comments), along targeted transport routes in those 44 other states, about what DOE is proposing, so the concerned public can submit meaningful scoping comments. For that reason, the current 60 day comment period should be extended to at least 90 days. Why not, considering that DOE itself has projected that Yucca could not be opened before 2017 at the very earliest? DOE OCRWM (Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management) director Ward Sproat announced just last week that 2020, or later, is a more realistic opening date for Yucca. DOE Deputy Secretary Clay Sell just this week was reported in the press to have announced that Yucca's opening may not be for decades yet. So what is the rush on this public comment period?

In addition, DOE should hold hearings in major radioactive waste transportation crossroads, such as St. Louis and Kansas City, Missouri; Chicago, Illinois; Atlanta, Georgia; Lincoln, Nebraska; Asheville, North Carolina; etc. In 1999 and 2000, DOE held nearly two dozen Yucca Draft EIS hearings across the country, a number of which were held in key transport-impacted communities, such as ours. DOE should do likewise this time, given the major overhaul to its transport and repository plans that the TAD proposal represents.

In the Yucca Draft EIS public comment period in 1999 to 2000, around 15,000 comments were submitted, many having to do with transportation issues. That is why DOE should hold hearings along targeted transport routes both inside and outside Nevada - because the impacted public cares. Sacramento, California and Salt Lake City, Utah would be a good start - DOE's current Mina corridor proposal makes those two state capitals the west and east gateways by which high-level radioactive waste would enter Nevada by train in very large numbers.

The Mina route impacts more Nevada cities and towns than any other route that DOE has yet proposed. Given the direct impacts that would hit Nevada communities never before targeted for high-level radioactive waste shipments in large numbers, hearings should also be held in Elko, Battle Mountain, Winnemucca, Lovelock, Yerington, and other impacted Nevada communities.

DOE's attempt to limit the time and information available to the public with which to file comments on these latest proposed changes to the Yucca dump design and its associated transport systems undermines genuine, meaningful public participation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). We urge DOE to extend the public comment period, and to hold hearings in our transport-impacted corridor communities.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kamps  
Nuclear Waste Specialist  
Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRS)  
6930 Carroll Avenue, Suite 340  
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Dave Kraft  
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webserver@yucca-web1.ymp.gov on 12/12/2006 07:02:22 PM

To: EIS\_Comments@notes.ymp.gov  
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---> organization : NIRS

---> position : Nuclear Waste Specialist

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Comment Text :

-->[ADDENDUM: The Center for Safe Energy of CA, the Sierra Club of CA, and Nebraskans for Peace add their signatures to this request for additional hearings submitted earlier today by Kevin Kamps of NIRS via fax and DOE OCRWM web form. Their signatures and contact information have been added to the original submission. See below. This addendum has also been submitted by DOE OCRWM web form, as well as by fax. ---Kevin Kamps, NIRS]

December 12, 2006

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Sincerely,

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 301-270-NIRS (301-270-6477); Fax: 301-270-4291  
[nirsnet@nirs.org](mailto:nirsnet@nirs.org); [www.nirs.org](http://www.nirs.org)

TO: Mr. M. Lee Bishop

FAX # 1-800-967-0739

FROM: Kevin Kamps, Nuclear Waste Specialist

**NOTES:**

# of pages: Cover sheet + 3

Public Comments Re: DOE's Amended  
 NOI to Expand the Scope of the  
 EIS for the Alignment, Construction,  
 and Operation of a Rail Line to  
 a Geologic Repository at Yucca Mtn.,  
 Nye Co., NV — request for additional  
 public hearings in IL, GA, NC,  
 MO, NV, CA, and UT.

December 12, 2006

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