



Nye County, Nevada **COMMUNITY PROTECTION PLAN**

Protections for the Site County (Its Residents, Communities, and Future) in the Event that the Federal Government Decides to Transfer the Nation's Highly Radioactive Wastes to Yucca Mountain

Jeff Taguchi and Henry Neth
Nye County, Nevada Commissioners
November 16, 2001



OBJECTIVES

Review 3 Key Topics of the CPP

1. **Overview of the Proposed Protections.**
2. **The Rationale for the Proposed Protections.**
3. **Cumulative Impacts of Federal Actions on Nye County.**



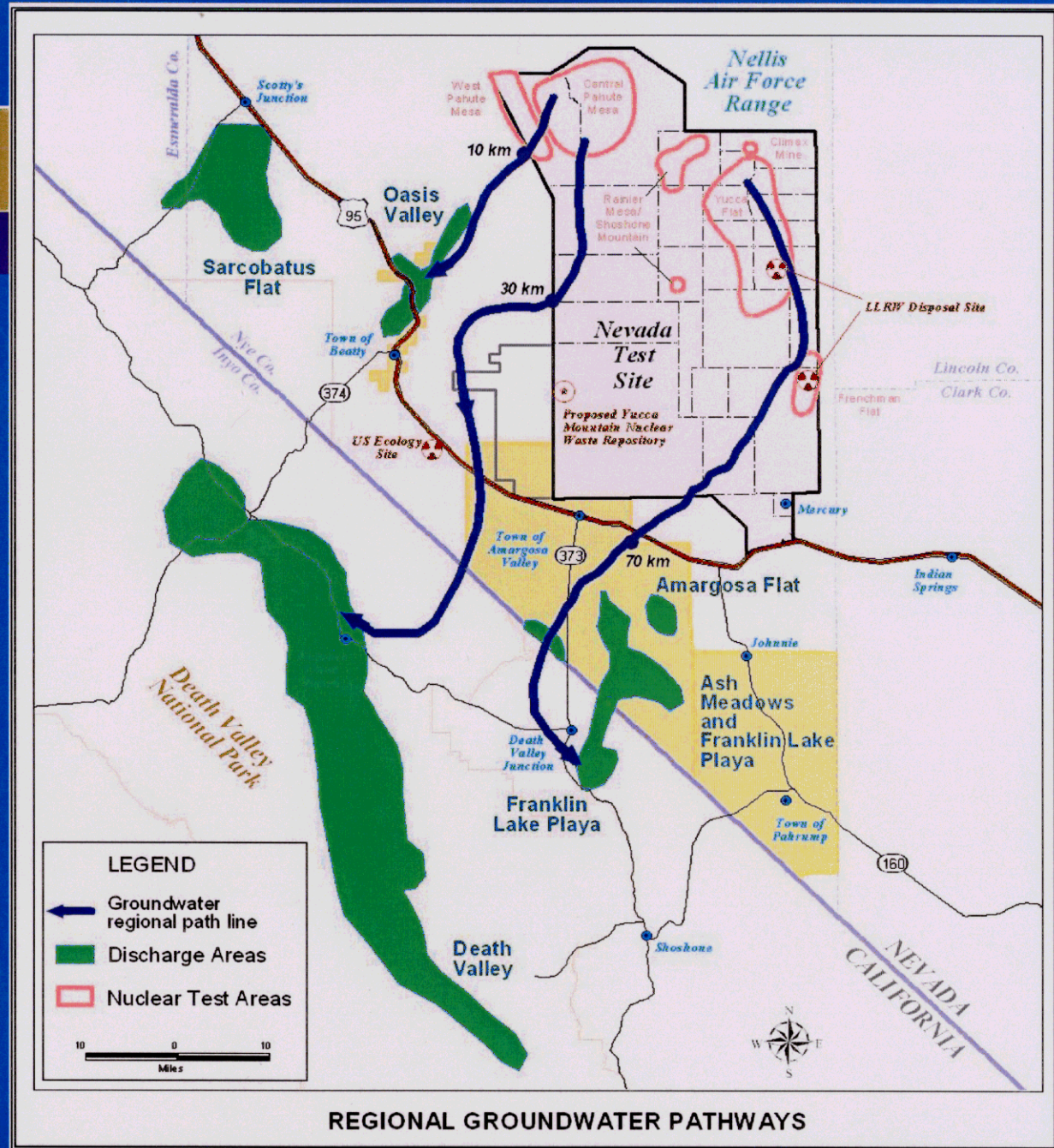
OBJECTIVES OF THE PROPOSED PROTECTIONS

Protect and assure, rather than threaten, the future of the site county.

- 1. *Health and Safety* - Assure the health and safety of current and future residents of the site county.**
- 2. *Transportation* - Ensure that shipments of highly radioactive wastes funneled into the site county use modes and routes inherently as safe or more safe as those used in shipment cross-country.**
- 3. *Community Economic Future* - Provide an opportunity for an attractive non-radiological economic future in the site county – even as the federal government adds an extraordinary future imposition to those of the past.**

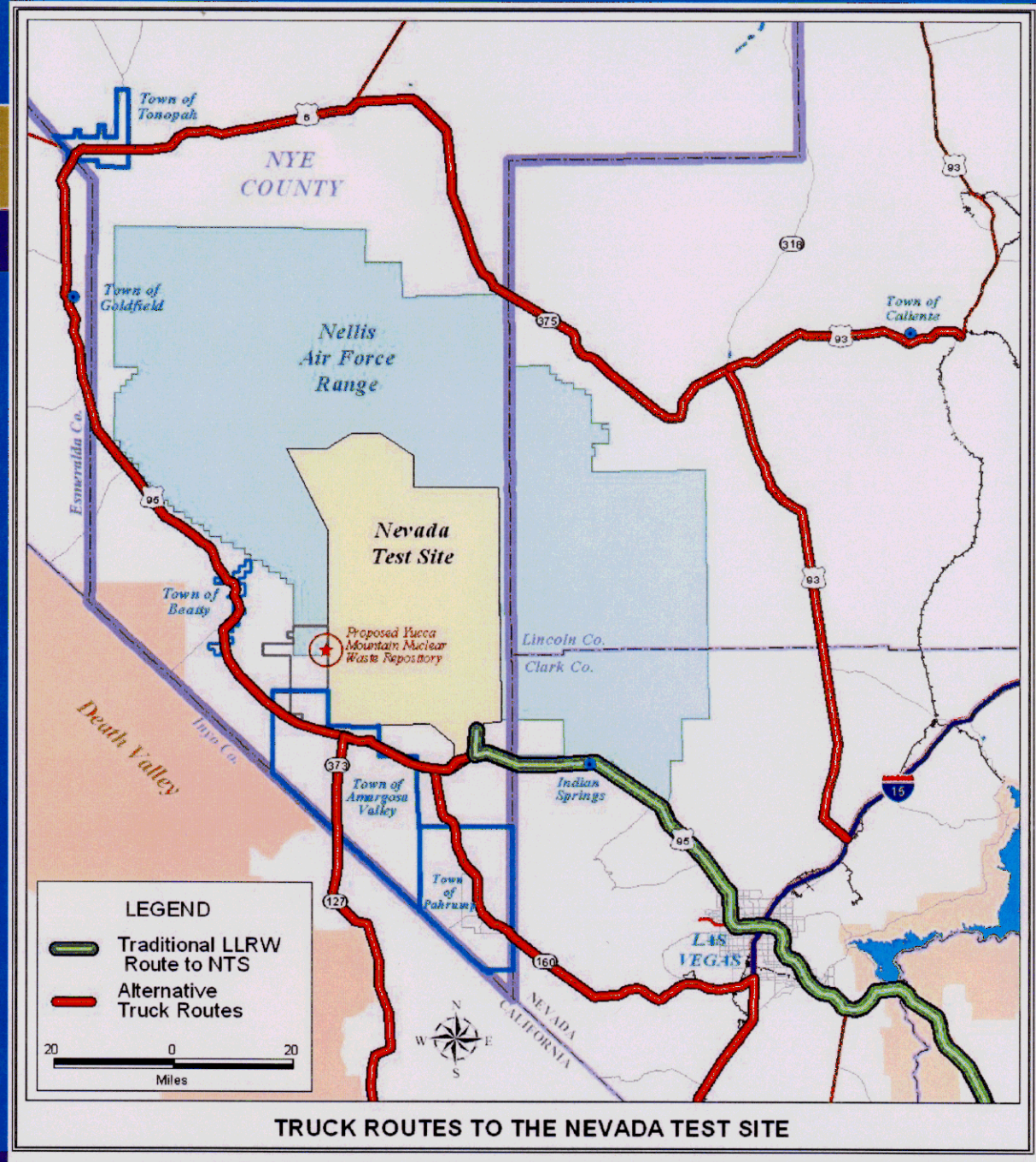


Regional Groundwater Pathways





Truck Routes to the Nevada Test Site (NTS)





Nevada Science and Technology Corridor Projects



NEVADA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CORRIDOR PROJECTS

"NEXT GEN" MAGLEV HIGH SPEED DEMONSTRATION:
50-mile demonstration from Las Vegas to Amargosa Valley of next-generation, high-speed maglev passenger train using superconductivity. demonstration line will move Las Vegas visitors to new science museum and to Death Valley National Park

SOLAR-POWERED MAGLEV TRANSPORTATION BASED UPON SUPERCONDUCTIVITY:
Support R&D to provide 100% "Green-powered" maglev transportation using solar power by exploiting potential of Nevada's 350-days of clear sky and high solar radiation levels

SOLAR AND SUPERCONDUCTING MAGNETIC ENERGY STORAGE (SMES):
R&D and demonstration site for the use of Superconducting Magnetic Energy Storage technologies to support 24-hour solar

AEROSPACE ROBOTICS/SOLAR DEMONSTRATION CENTER:
"Mars sim" (simulated) landscape for robotics demonstration with solar power

NEW TOOL: THE NEVADA TEST SITE DEVELOPMENT ACT:
Proposed Nevada Legislation to facilitate joint ventures along the Corridor between local government, eligible non-profits and private development partners

RENEWABLE ENERGY FINANCING PROGRAM:
Capitalization of a public-private debt and equity financing to support the R&D, demonstration, and manufacturing of RE products and integrated systems; service area will extend beyond the Corridor for the purpose of expanding the markets for RE

RENEWABLE ENERGY/NEW DEVELOPMENT SKUNK WORKS:
An international "skunk works without walls" through a virtual/real-time web and seasonal residents

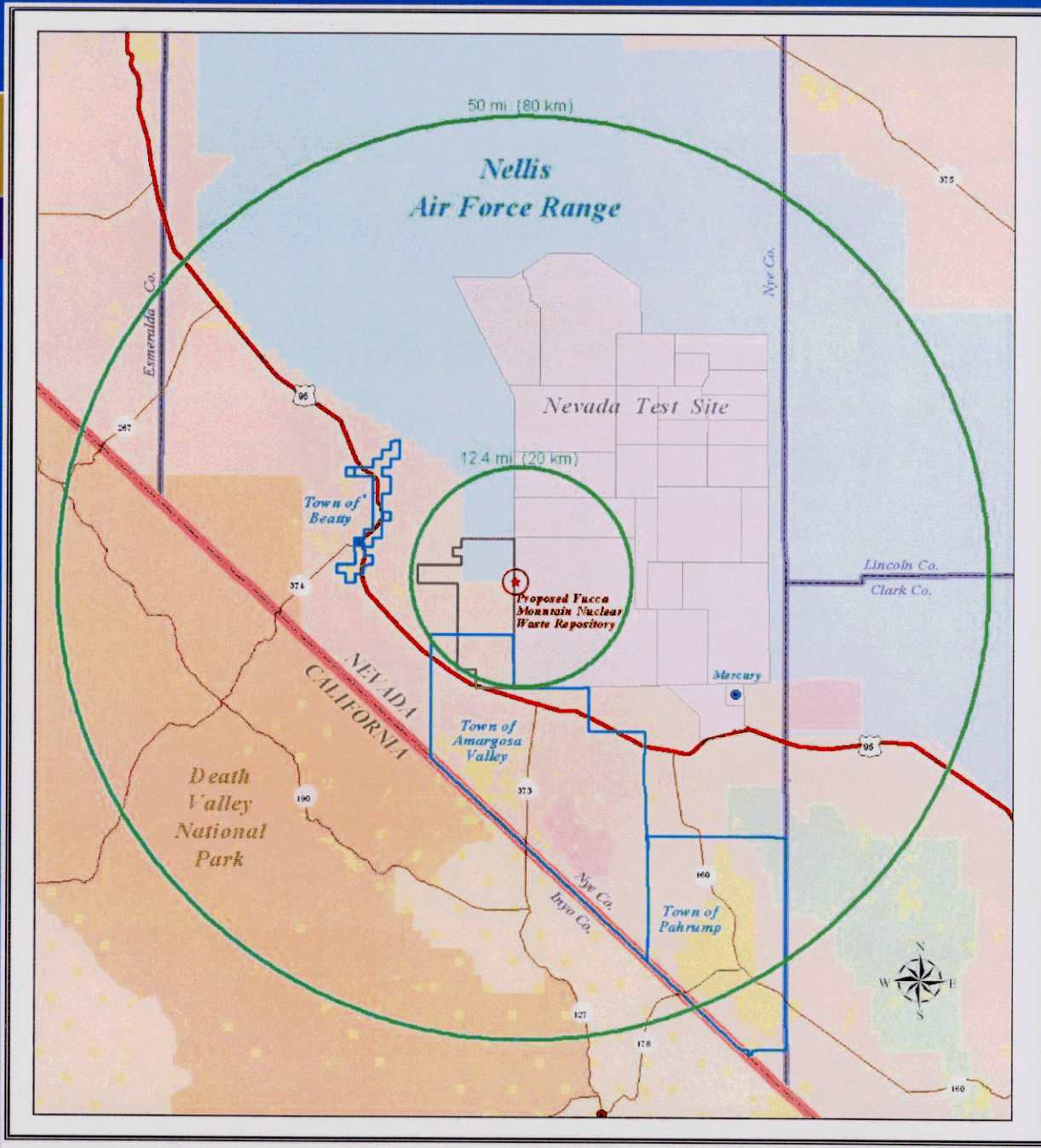


Protections of Health, Safety, and the Environment

- 1. Ongoing independent institutional oversight.**
- 2. An expanded and coordinated, but independent monitoring program.**
- 3. Local monitoring of radiological exposure and health.**
- 4. Full local capability for radiological ER and medical services.**
- 5. A DOE center for radiological waste management research and development.**



The Yucca Mountain Site in Local Context



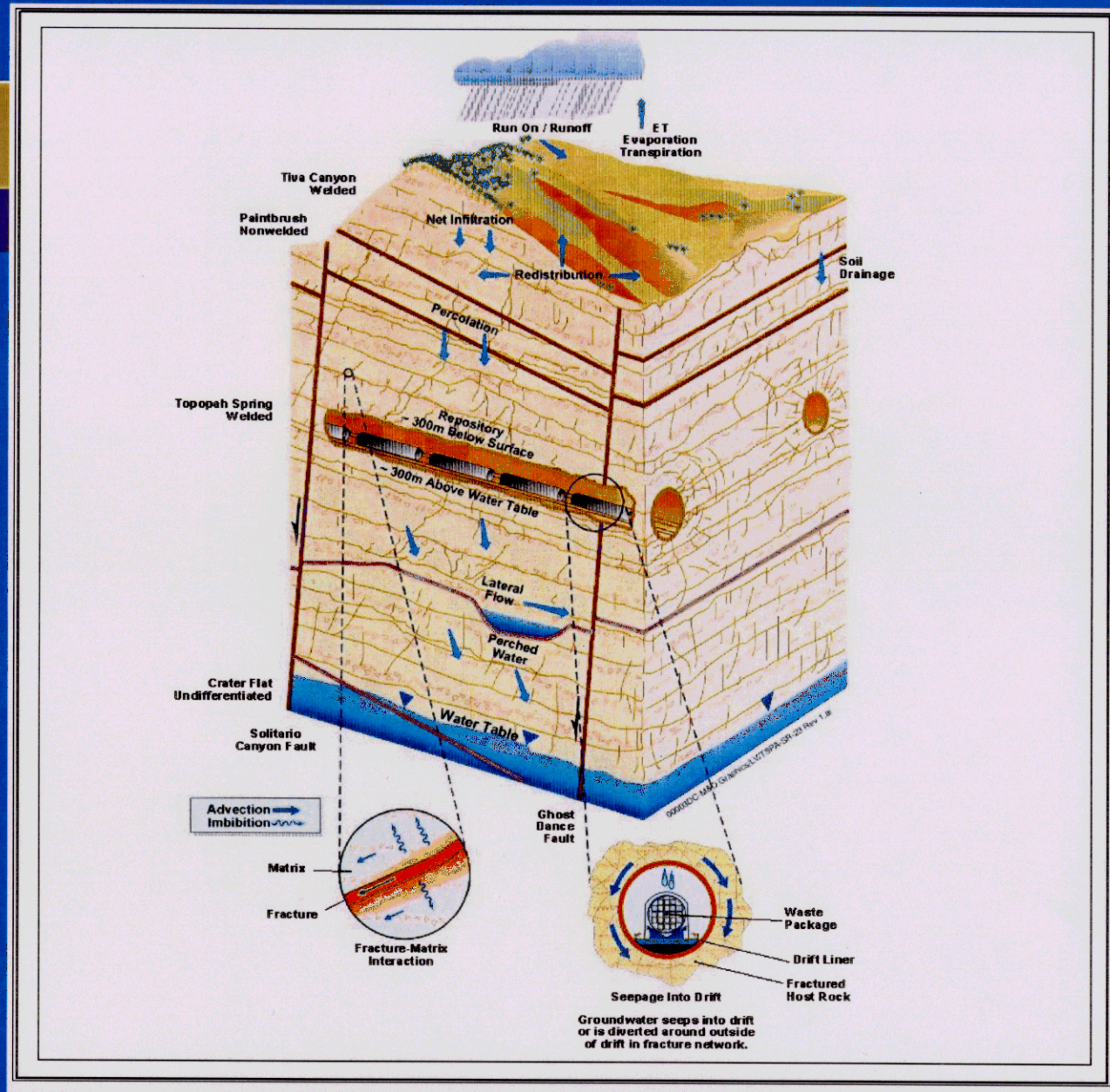


Why Neither DOE Nor Congress Can Assure Health and Safety

- **YMP designed to contain, not permanently isolate.**
- **Performance has been predicted, not demonstrated or proven.**
- **Performance could be compromised by project management.**
- **Current expertise, commitments, etc. will be replaced.**
- **Federal agencies respond to each other's interests.**
- **A current Congress cannot commit its successors.**



The Yucca Mountain Repository





Protections in Transportation Mode-Route Selection

- 6. Rail transport of highly radioactive wastes in the site county; no transport of highly radioactive wastes on two-lane roads.**
- 7. An integrated plan for DOE's two national shipment campaigns funneled to a single destination county.**



U.S. Highway 95 Through
the Town of Beatty

U.S. Highway 95 Rural Communities



U.S. Highway 95 Through
the Town of Goldfield



Protections of Community Economic Future

- 8. Revision of traditional DOE management practices in Nevada.**
- 9. Transfer of two percent of federal land in the site county.**
- 10. Federal designations to encourage investment supportive of the site county's comprehensive future development plans.**



The Science and Technology Corridor





OBJECTIVES

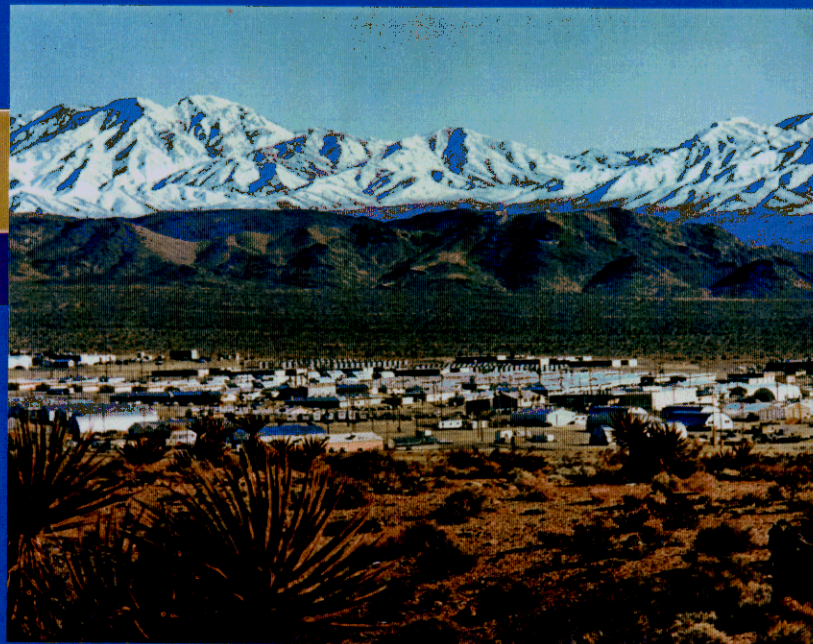
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Relationship with the Federal Government

- **Previous federal impositions on the same locality.**
- **Past management shortcomings of the proponent agency.**
- **Federal imposition on a single selected locality.**
- **Imposition justification is not overriding national security.**
- **Imposition of a first-and-only-of-its-kind facility.**
- **Past DOE action favoring politically powerful interests in NV.**
- **A facility with uncertain and unknowable potential future threats.**
- **Imposition is permanent, in perpetuity.**



Mercury at the NTS

The Site
County for
Major
Federal
Missions



Fighters over the Nellis Air Force Range,
NW of Las Vegas



Relationship with the Site State

- **The site county shares many substantive concerns. The distinctions, however, include:**
 - **The state's legal right to disapprove: not provided to the site county.**
 - **The YMP affects the site county uniquely among 17 Nevada counties.**
 - **Protection of health, safety and welfare: a local government responsibility.**
 - **Limited site county representation in Nevada state government.**



Nature of the Protections To Be Negotiated

- **Actions which the federal government has capability to implement.**
- **Actions which substantially meet three site county objectives.**
- **Actions not specifically designed to prevent imposition.**
- **Alternative proposals that fully meet the same objectives.**



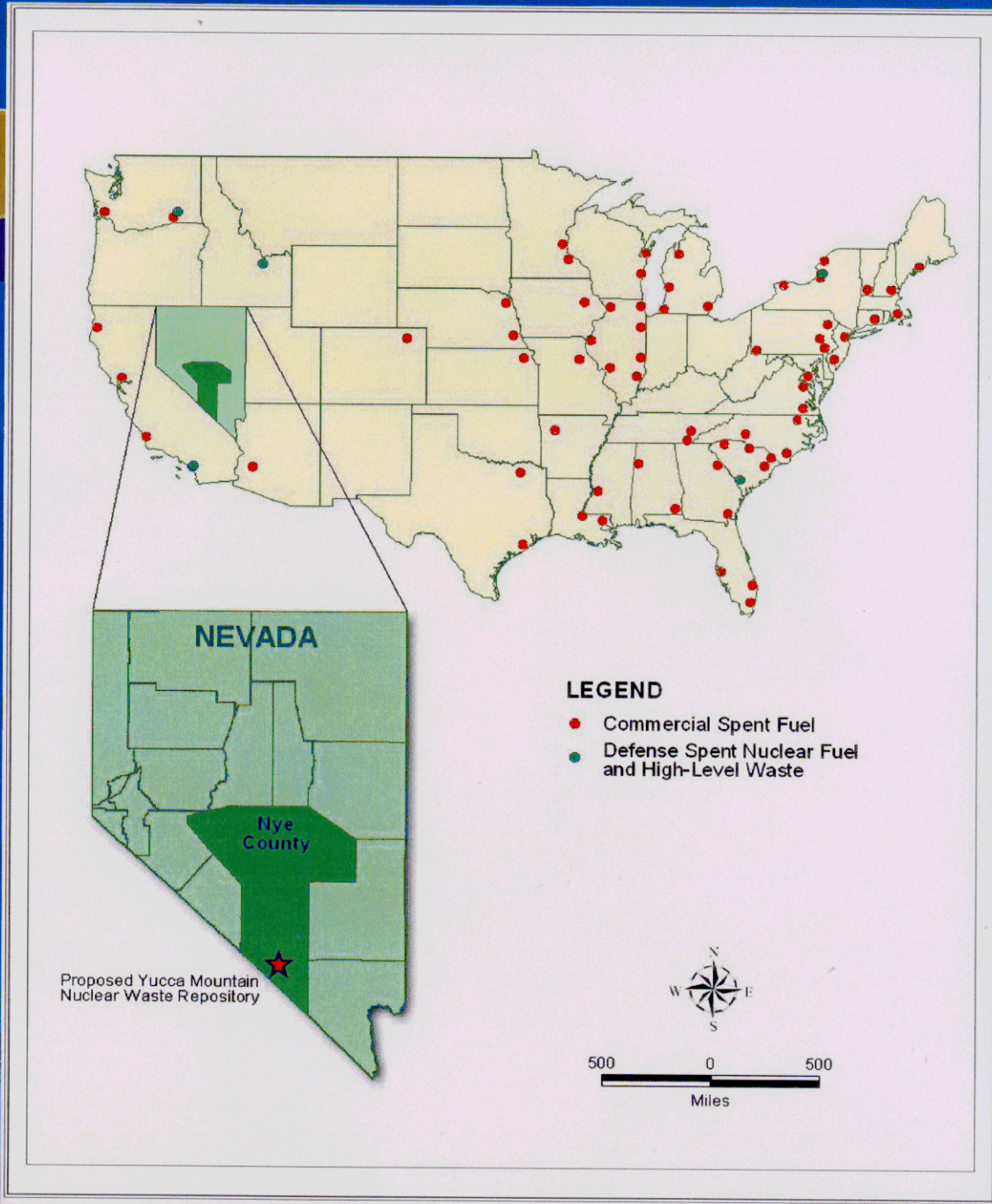
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Nye County and the Nation's Highly Radioactive Wastes



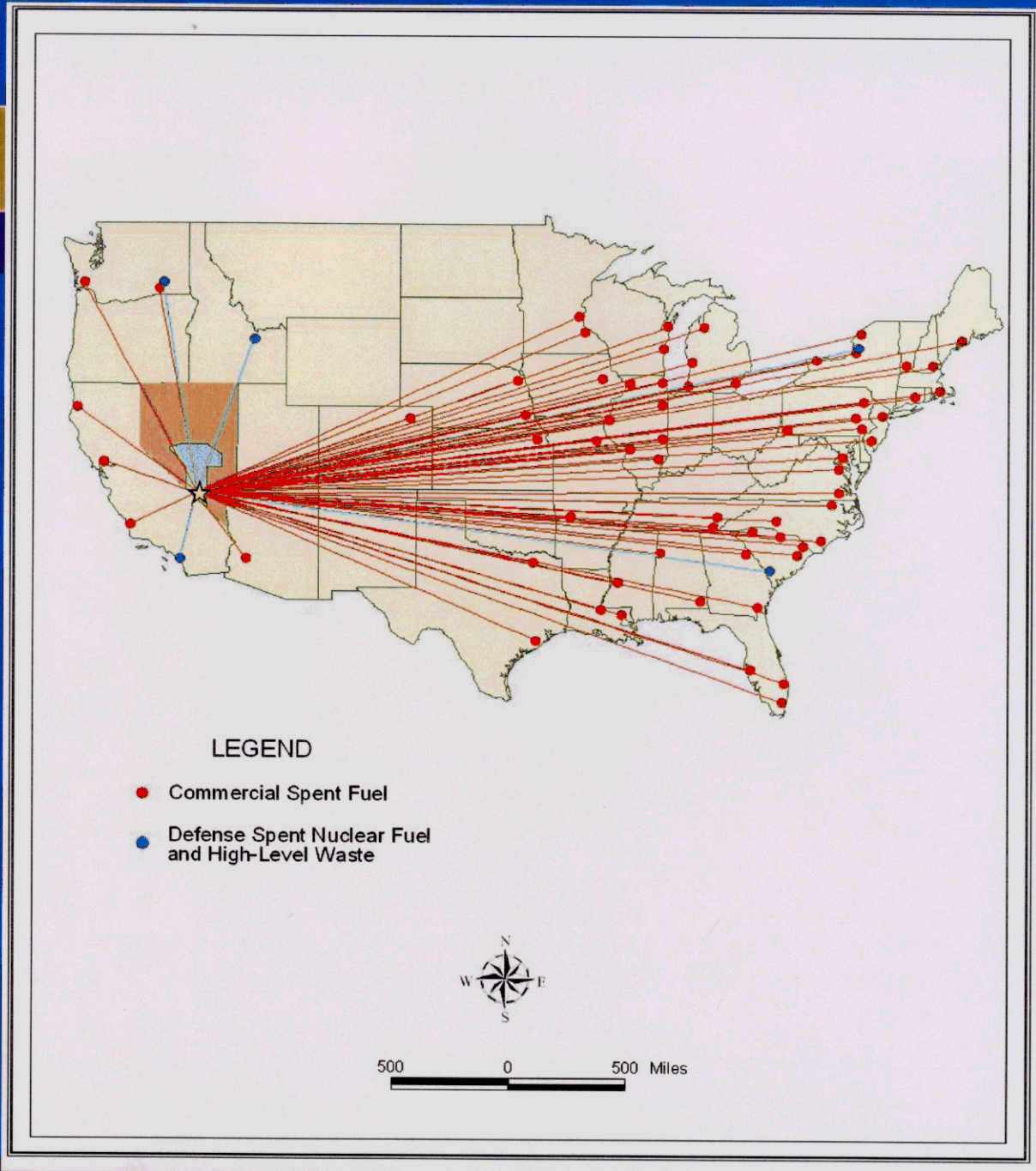


The Programmatic Context: Nye County and the YMP

- **Of 3,141 counties, only one receives all highly radioactive waste.**
- **No community (including Nye) wants this distinction.**
- **The NWPA does not provide the site county a right to disapprove.**
- **Nye County must protect its residents and its future.**
- **Local officials: the only direct representatives of the site county.**



High-Level Waste Transfer



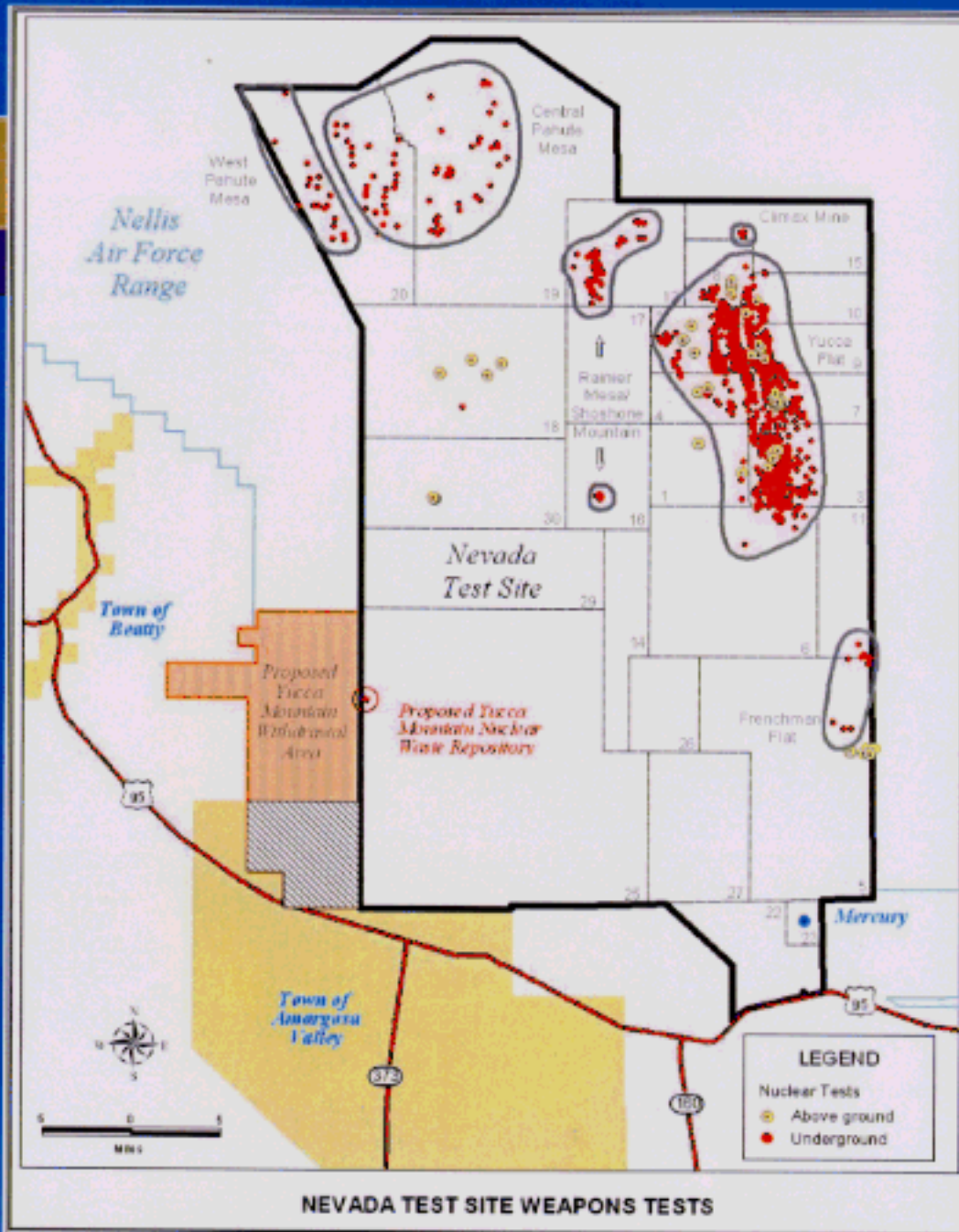


The Programmatic Context: Radiological Impositions

- **Nuclear weapons testing at NTS.**
- **Disposal of LLW from the DOE complex.**
- **Storage of transuranic wastes at NTS.**
- **Commercial LLW disposal at the US Ecology site.**
- **In prospective, the nation's highly radioactive commercial and defense wastes.**



Nevada Test Site (NTS) Nuclear Weapons Tests



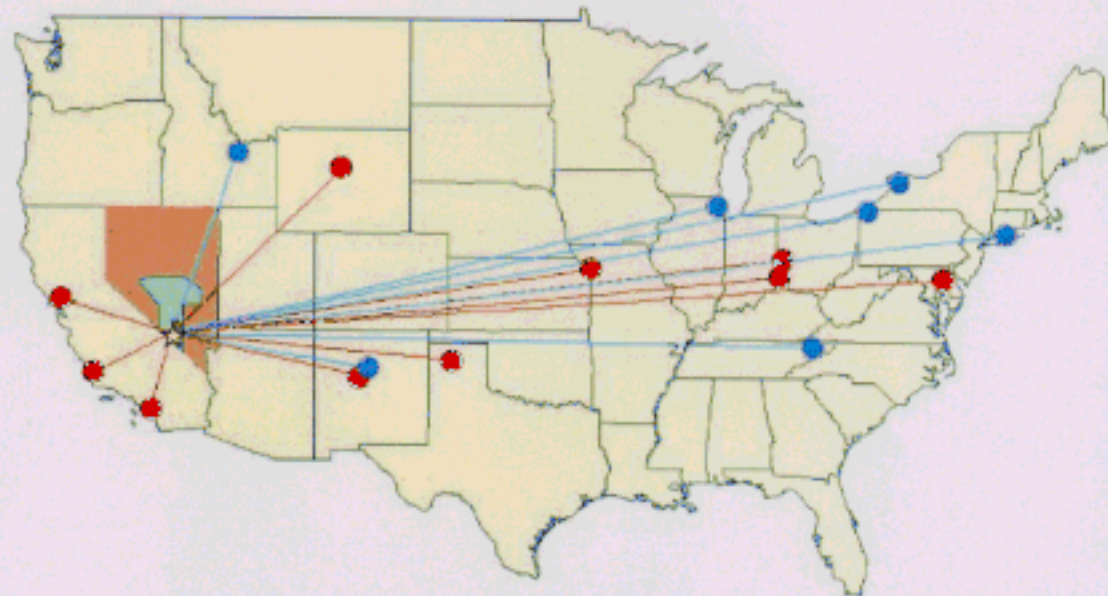


An
Outsider's
Perspective
of the
Nevada
Desert





DOE Low-Level Waste Transfer



LEGEND

- Current Generators Authorized to Dispose of LLW at the at NTS
- Additional Generators Authorized Under WM PEIS Record of Decision



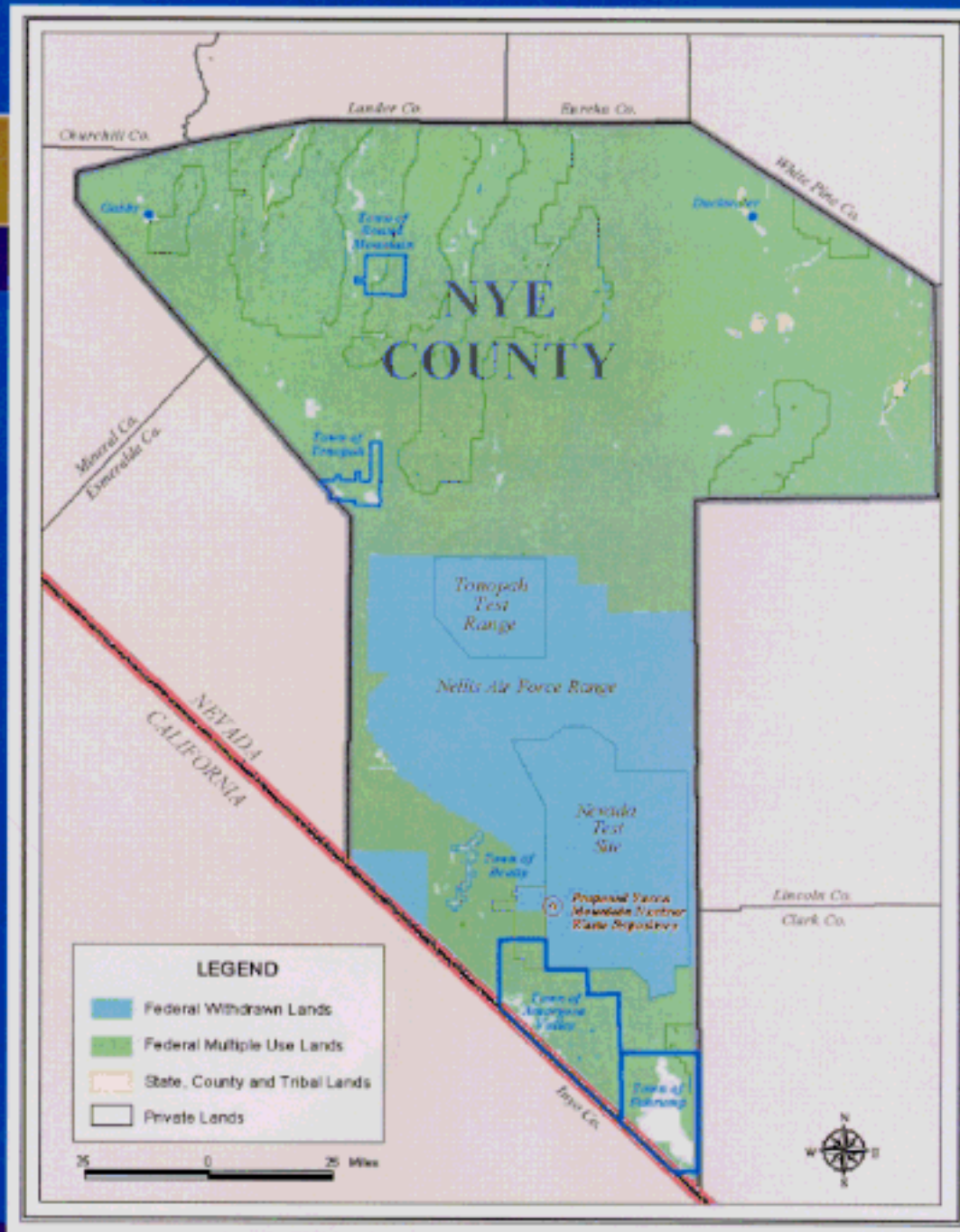


The Programmatic Context: Federal Land Management

- **Nye County is the 3rd largest county.**
- **97.8% is managed by 6 different federal agencies.**
- **2.7 million centrally located acres have been withdrawn.**
- **DOE activity in NV contributes little to the site county economy.**
- **Federal agencies pay only 1.4%.**

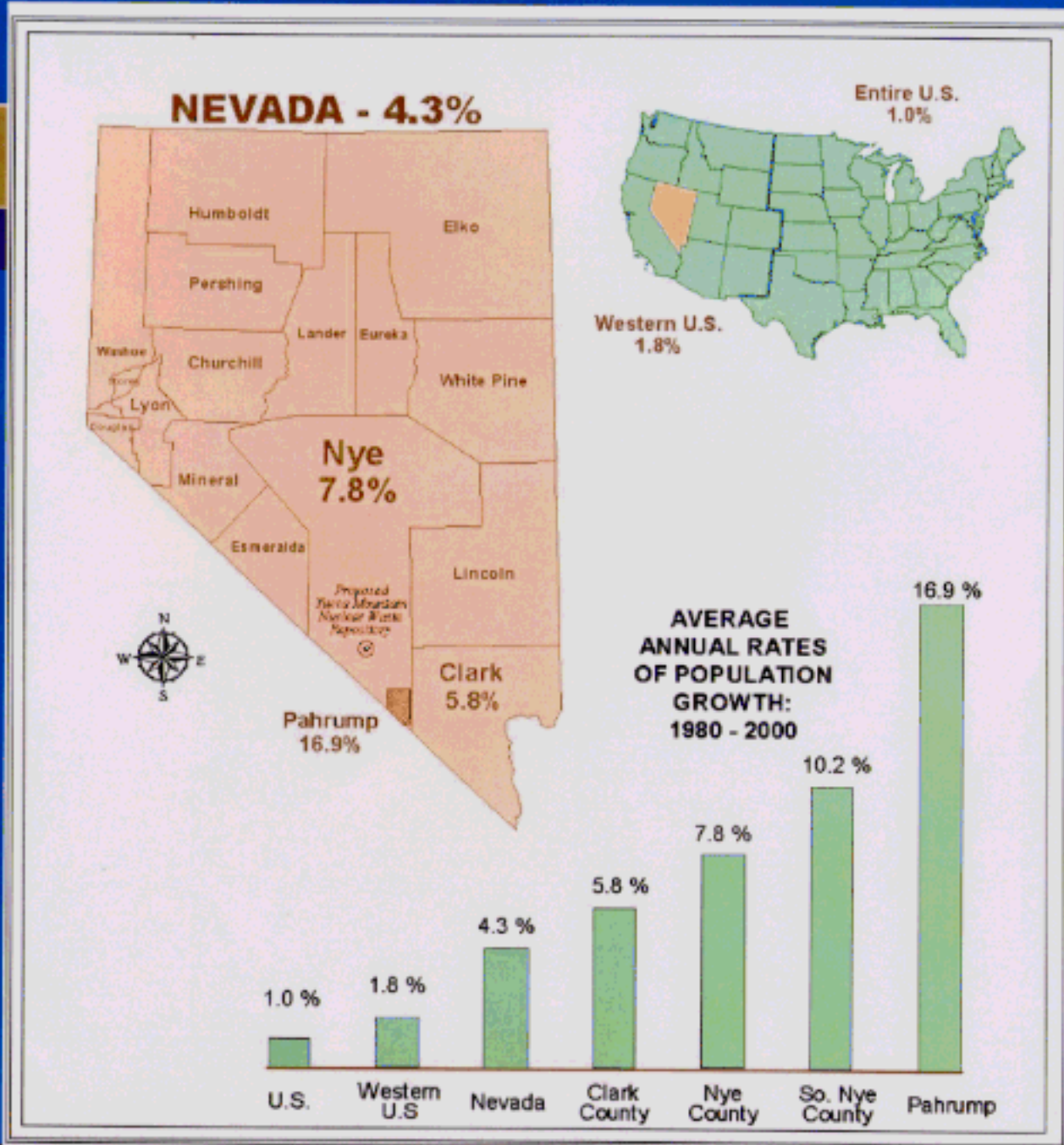


Federal and Private Lands



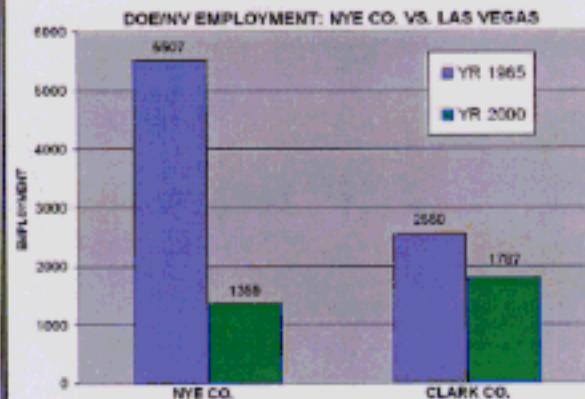
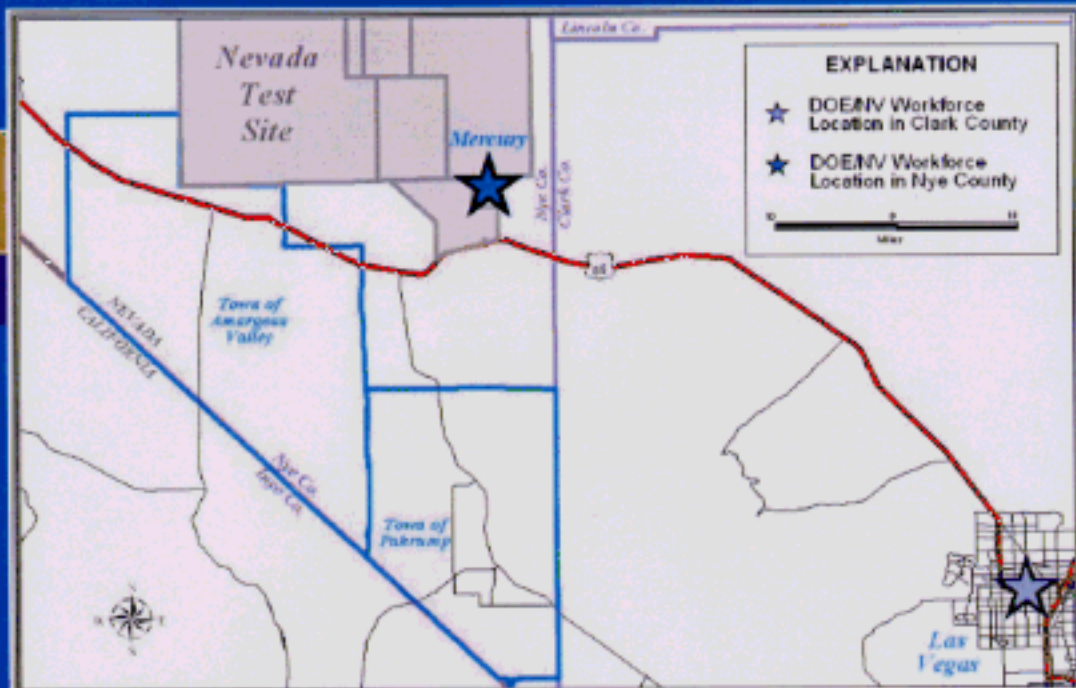


Is Yucca Mountain
“Remote?”



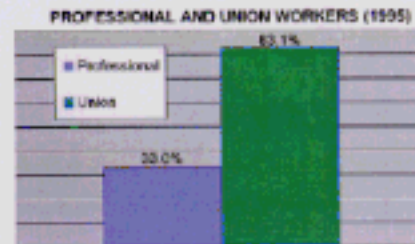


DOE/NV Workforce Distribution

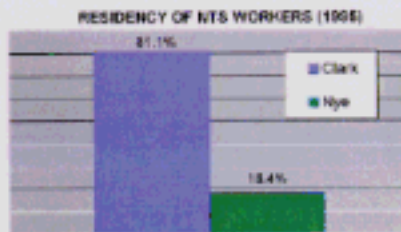


Between 1965, when 18 nuclear devices were detonated at the NTS, and 2000, when the major NTS activity is the disposal of low-level radioactive waste, DOE/NV employment has decreased by 75%, while employment in Las Vegas has decreased by only 30%.

Of the workforce at NTS, only 18.4% live in the county where they work; 81.1% commute from the Las Vegas Valley, often using subsidized bus services to make the 60 to 65 mile trip.

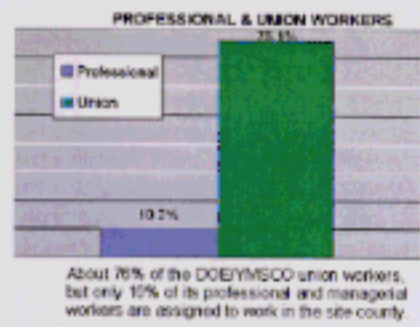
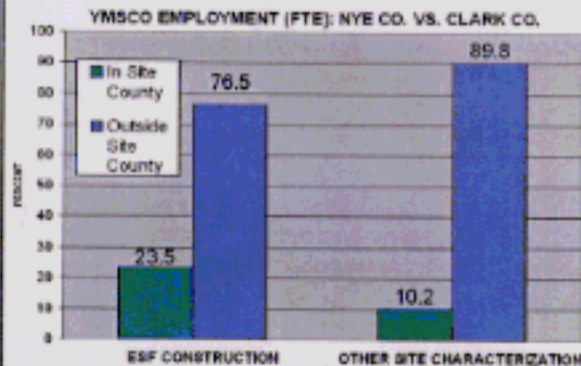
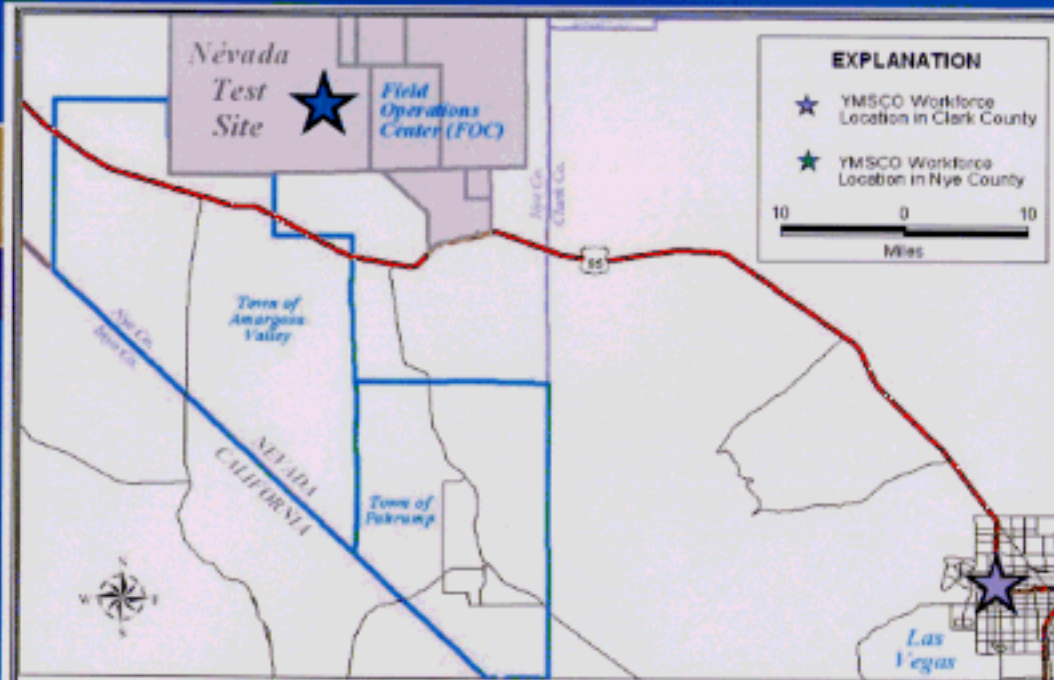


Of DOE's unionized craftsmen and equipment operators, 83% were assigned to work at the NTS in 1995, compared to only 33% of its professionals and managers.

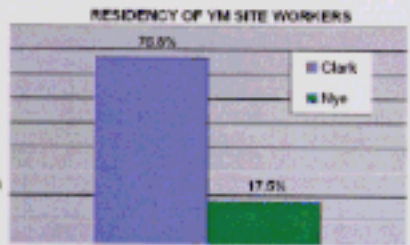




YMSCO Workforce Distribution



Except during construction of its Exploratory Studies Facility (April 1995 -September 1995), only 10% of its full-time equivalent employment has been assigned to work in the site county.



Of its Nye County workforce, only 17.5% live in the county in which they work. Almost 77% commute from Las Vegas, often using subsidized bus services to make the (5 to 90) mile trip.



Yucca Mountain: the North Portal Area

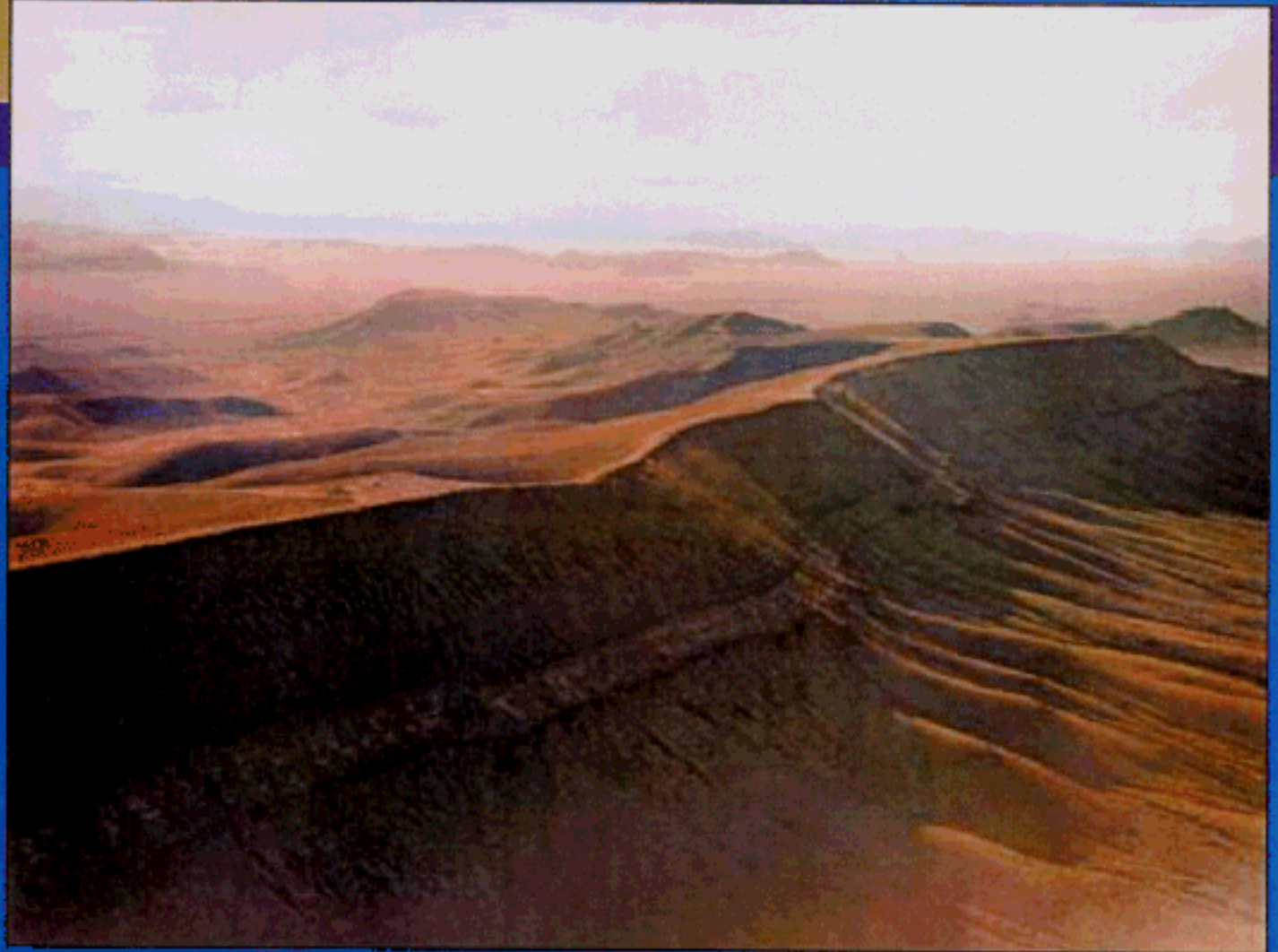
The
Contribution of
the DOE
YMSCO



The Pahrump Dairy in southern Nye County



Payment
Equal to
Taxes
(PETT)





The Political Context: The Competing Interests

- **Congress.**
- **Nuclear industry.**
- **State of Nevada.**
- **Corridor communities.**
- **Environmental Groups.**
- **The site county:**
 - **Where all HLW is transferred and stays in perpetuity.**
 - **Has no legal choice to disapprove.**
 - **How is it protected?**
 - **How are its goals addressed?**