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For Immediate Release: Friday, September 28, 2001 News Media Contact: Joe Davis, 202/586-4940, Allen Benson, 702-794-1322

Abraham Orders Yucca Mountain Project Hearing Sessions

- 29 Field Hearing Sessions To Collect Citizens' Comments Across Nevada -

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Washington - In addition to the public hearings for Amargosa Valley and Pahrump, Nevada scheduled for October 10 and 12, U.S. Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham ordered Department of Energy officials today to visit each county in Nevada and Inyo County, California to conduct field hearing sessions and collect comments from citizens on the Yucca Mountain Project.

"In order to provide residents in other locations of Nevada and in California an opportunity to participate in the public comment process, the Department is providing additional opportunities for citizens to share their comments and express their views on the Yucca Mountain Project," Abraham said. "In addition, the Department, at each hearing, will conduct poster sessions where citizens will have the opportunity to gather information and ask questions about the project."

Earlier this week, Abraham announced that the Department's Las Vegas Science Center would open as an extended hearing facility for Las Vegas residents to submit comments regarding the Yucca Mountain Project.

Department officials and a court reporter will conduct field hearings in all Nevada counties and Inyo County, California to collect comments on the Yucca Mountain Project from citizens. The field hearings, 29 in all, will begin Wednesday, October 3, and be held according to the following schedule:

- Lander County: Battle Mountain Civic Center, 625 S. Broad, Battle Mountain, NV October 4 and 11, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Eureka County: Crescent Valley Town Hall, 5045 Tenabo Ave., Crescent Valley, NV October 5 and 10, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Elko County: Elko Convention and Visitors Authority, 700 Moren Way (Cedar Room), Elko, NV October 3, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.

- Churchill County: Sandtrap Lounge & Restaurant, 2655 Country Club Dr., Fallon, NV October 5 and 12, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Humboldt County: Winnemucca Convention Center, 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV
 - October 3 and 10, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Pershing County: Lovelock Community Center, 820 6th St., Lovelock, NV October 4 and 11, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Lincoln County: Caliente Senior Citizens Center, 240 Front St., Caliente, NV October 4 and 11, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- White Pine County: Bristlecone Convention Center, 150 6th St., Ely, NV October 3 and 10, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Inyo County: American Legion Hall, 205 S. Edwards St., Independence, CA October 3, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Inyo County: Statham Hall, 138 Jackson St., Lone Pine, CA October 10, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Esmeralda County: Goldfield Community Center, 301 Crook St., Goldfield, NV October 4 and 11, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Mineral County: Mineral Chamber of Commerce Convention Center 932 E St., Hawthorne, NV
 - October 5 and 12, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Storey County: Storey County Senior Center, Corner of Mill & E Sts., Virginia City, NV October 3 and 12, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Washoe County: Washoe County District Health Department, 1001 E. 9th St., Bldg. B, Auditorium B, Reno, NV; October 4, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Carson City: Carson Nugget Casino, Room C, 507 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV October 3, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Douglas County: Sharkey's Rib Room, 1440 Highway 395, Gardnerville, NV October 4 and 10, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Lyon County: Lyon County Administrative Complex, 27 S. Main St., Yerrington, NV October 5 and 11, 3:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.

Additional information on these public hearing sessions and the Civilian Radioactive Waste Management program may be obtained at the Yucca Mountain web site at www.ymp.gov or by calling 1-800-967-3477. Local and regional newspapers will also provide related information.

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