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2 MS. TREICHEL: Can I just talk loud enough? As
3 long as the court reporter can hear me.

4 MS. DIXON: Just make sure that he does. It
5 might be better to stand closer.

6 MS. TREICHEL: I spoke earlier. My name is Judy
7 Treichel. I'm with the Nevada Nuclear Waste Task Force and the
8 Task Force will be submitting written comments after we've had
9 a chance to go through the document.

10 I want to make two points. One, I thought
11 Mr. Tucker did an excellent job of showing where the National
12 Environmental Policy Act requires the involvement of citizens,
13 and it's been very difficult for the people here.

14 They've had a hard time knowing when meetings
15 were happening. Very few have even seen the document that
16 they're here commenting on this evening, and then I want to
17 officially protest the time limits because I think at this
18 stage of the game that is not in any way complying with the
19 agencies shall request comments from the public, affirmatively
20 soliciting those comments from persons who are interested or
21 affected.

22 And so I don't believe that people should have
23 been shut down at the time that they were.

3 24 The only other thing that I would mention is a
25 lot has been said about the permanent withdrawal of 230 square

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1 miles. That's a lot of land and it's a lot of land to take
2 away from the City of Amargosa or the Town of Amargosa where
3 actually this gets flopped over the top of your township.

4 It's a lot to take away from Nye County, from
5 Nevada, from US citizens that like going out on public land,
6 and certainly from the Western Shoshone whose territory that is
7 by treaty and who have sacred sites at Yucca Mountain.

8 They're talking about it because the DOE has to
9 show permanent title, permanent possession of that land when
10 they go for a license application. They can't get a license
11 unless they can prove to have absolute ownership and control
12 forever of that land, and yet the same Department of Energy --
13 and I have many friends there. We see each other all the time
14 because we seem to live in meetings -- holds their breath year
15 to year because this program operates on annual Congressional
16 appropriations, and many -- maybe you've seen stories in the
17 paper about whether or not the program would stay alive this
18 way.

4 19 Would the Senate, would the Congress, would both
20 houses together give them the money that they need?

21 So once this program starts, it seems to me a
22 real disconnect when you've got a forever program that has to
23 operate on annual appropriations from a Congress who from one
24 year to the next is very uncertain about how important it is to
25 them, and when they do close it up, the drip shields, the

1 backfill, all of this stuff that's supposed to protect the site
2 from leaking -- I don't know if it will or not -- are very
3 expensive and they get paid for at the time it's closed,
4 whether it's fifty years or 300 years, and this depends upon
5 Congress thinking it's that important to appropriate the money.
6 So I think people need to think about that. If
7 you feel that Congress has not felt you were terribly important
8 now, you know, it's possible that that would be a doubt in the
9 future.

10 Thank you.