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EIS000181



RBTHWILCOX@aol.com on 10/25/99 03:05:09 PM

To: EISR/YM/RWDOE

cc:

Subject: Comments on Draft EIS

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I have reviewed the summary of the DEIS and attended the evening session of the Oct. 21st public meeting in Atlanta. I have had the benefit of experience obtained during a career which included over 40 years of dealing with nuclear energy matters, of which 23 were with the federal government, including nine in nuclear regulation and safety analysis, and 14 in international nuclear cooperation.

- 1 In my opinion, the DOE has fairly represented the impacts of proceeding with the Yucca Mt. Project and of not doing so.
- 2 This nation badly needs a geologic repository, and it would be hard to find a more appropriate site than Yucca Mt. Other nations with similar requirements will have to settle for sites that, while suitable, will not be nearly as favorable as the one we have.
- 3 DOE is long overdue on its legal commitment to take the spent nuclear fuel (SNF) from the nation's nuclear power plants. It should certainly proceed with Yucca Mt. as rapidly as possible and, in addition, should make arrangements for interim storage of the SNF pending Yucca Mt.'s readiness.
- 4 DOE should do more to educate the general public (including strident anti-nuclear groups) about the importance of nuclear energy now and in the future to minimize greenhouse gases and global warming and fulfill the nation's international treaty obligations in that regard.
- 5 The administration should also seek ways to streamline and economize the ridiculous EIS process, including by seeking new legislation if need be. DOE should become more of an action agency.

Respectfully submitted,

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