

11 MS. GIAMPAOLI: Good Evening. My name is
12 Mary Ellen Giampaoli. I have been asked by the Nye
13 County Board of County Commissioners to come here
14 this evening to represent them with a formal
15 statement.

16 I'll note for the record that I am a
17 consultant to Nye County to Department of Natural
18 Resources and Federal Facilities. I am a former
19 employee of the Department of Energy, and a former
20 project manager and document manager for the Nevada
21 test site environmental impact statement as well.
22 With that I will begin my statement.

23 Naya County, Nevada is the site for the
24 proposed spent fuel in high-level nuclear waste
25 depository, Yucca Mountain. The residents of Nye

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1 County will be those most affected by the
2 transportation and the permanent disposal from 77
3 sites located across the United States.

4 The Nye County Board of County
5 Commissioners has taken no position either in favor
6 of or in opposition to a repository storage
7 facility at Yucca Mountain in Nye county. Nye
8 county recognizes that it cannot affect the outcome
9 of decisions regarding this project. We were not
10 consulted by Congress in the decision to identify
11 Yucca Mountain as the nation's only site nor has
12 the Department of Energy allowed us to sit at the
13 table in this process. The county has approached
14 Yucca Mountain, nonetheless, objectively in order
15 to act in the best interest of the county
16 residents.

17 Furthermore, Nye County must maintain
18 its credibility as they are charged with conducting
19 their own independent investigations and
20 maintaining oversight of the Department of Energy's
21 activities. The constituency as the residents of
22 Nye County and until they tell the Board of
23 Commissioners otherwise the county commission will
24 continue to remain officially neutral on the Yucca
25 Mountain Project.

1 Consistent with the position of
2 neutrality [Nye County maintains and will demand
3 that should the proposed repository of Yucca
4 Mountain go forward that it must be done in a safe
5 manner with no added risks to Nye County residents.]

2 [Based upon our initial review of the
6 draft impact statement for Yucca Mountain, Nye
7 County, has found that document is inadequate and
8 has called for preparation of second draft or
9 supplemental draft. Our conclusions are based upon
10 the county's own data which they have collected.
11 Our own analysis which we have been performed and
12 provided to the Department of Energy.]

3 [Nye County recognizes that each county
14 where wastes are located, and each county for which
15 the wastes will be transported, have concerns about
16 the waste that is being transported through their
17 communities. The waste shipments from the power
18 plants and the DOE sites across the nation will all
19 be focused into Nye County. The Department of
20 Energy has not adequately characterized nor
21 addressed the transportation risks within Nye
22 County itself.]

4 [Nye County has also found the DOE has
24 not adequately addressed accumulative impacts of
25

4 cont'd.

1 the propose repository, Yucca Mountain, on the
2 resources and ecosystems and expecially on the
3 human communities in Nye County.

4 The impact of past federal actions
5 including the residual contamination for more than
6 900 nuclear bomb tests has sacrificed the
7 groundwater resources under more than 250 square
8 miles of Nye county rendering background water
9 unavailable, and obviously inappropriate for
10 drinking or other uses.

11 The withdrawal of land through hope of
12 use through the Nevada test site, Nellis Air Force
13 range, and bombing ranges, and federal management
14 of millions of acres of national parks, forests,
15 and wildlife refuges have resulted in lost
16 opportunities from these lands.

17 Because of its wonderful location and
18 its unique characteristics, Nye County and its
19 residents have been disproportionately impacted by
20 past and present federal actions. Yucca Mountain
21 will significantly add to those impacts to the tune
22 of about 14 billion more curies. If the draft EIS
23 portrays to the decision maker that the Yucca
24 Mountain project is yet another casual federal
25 action with no more impact than clearing a road

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1 through a forest, nothing could be further from the
2 truth.

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3 Finally there is the question of equity.
4 The risks posed by the spent fuel and the high-
5 level wastes in Idaho aren't going away. They are
6 going to Nye County. Nye County will bear the
7 burden of risk reduction in each of these counties
8 with spent fuel where DOE facilities are located
9 just as they must bear the legacy of no more than
10 three hundred million curies of radioactive
11 contamination that has been left from the nuclear
12 weapons testing era. Once again Nye County is
13 being called upon to host a facility that carried
14 with it inherent risk and stigma that will last for
15 all practical purposes in perpetuity.

16 How much will one county be told to do
17 in the name of national interests? Nye County has
18 faithfully served the nation's needs for secure
19 facilities for the testing and development of
20 nuclear and conventional weapons and has received
21 only negligible benefits from these actions. The
22 soil and water resources have been contaminated.
23 Water resources over large regions have effectively
24 been taken by land withdrawals.

25 The proposed repository at Yucca

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5 cont'd.

1 Mountain will result in further contamination of
2 the county's groundwater resources in additional
3 withdrawn land. The adverse cumulative impact
4 associated with the proposed repository must be
5 adequately mitigated. A comprehensive package of
6 compensation and equity offsets and protections
7 must be put forth as a part of the proposed action
8 so that the county has the wherewithal to ensure
9 that the long-term health and safety of its
10 residents is protected. Thank you.

11 MR. BROWN: Thank you. The next person
12 signed up is Jay Kunze. Welcome.

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