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MR. McCALL: My name is Tom McCall; I'm a state representative in Georgia. I represent three counties in east central Georgia: Elbert, Lincoln and Wilkes Counties. And for those of you that are not from Georgia, welcome to Georgia.

I farm for a living. And evidently there's several environmental people out there, but I dare say that I'm probably more of an environmentalist than any of you sitting out there, by virtue of what I do for a living. Welcome to Georgia again. For those of you from Nevada, I appreciate you coming. I appreciate this much interest in this subject because I've been dealing with this for about two years now through the Legislature.

1... We have four reactor units in Georgia, and I'm proud of them. There are a little less than 50 in the whole southern United States, and many of these are going to reach capacity for storage for used fuel in about seven to ten years; thus, the urgent need for transporting spent fuel to Yucca Mountain, in my opinion. And I think the need for a central repository such as Yucca Mountain is clearly obvious, especially to us in the south. Spent fuel is being stored all over our region in different sites, and it poses a much

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1 greater threat than one central storage place such
2 as Yucca Mountain. The citizens of Georgia alone
3 have paid in over half a billion, with a b,
4 dollars to fund the Yucca Mountain used storage
5 site for nuclear fuel.

5

6 Now, if you look at the maps of the district
7 that I represent, if you look at the road map,
8 it's right directly in the middle of I-20 and
9 I-85. The southern end of my district's about 15
10 minutes from I-20; the northern end is about 15 or
11 20 minutes from I-85. If you'll look at the rail
12 map, the rail line from Sumner, Robinson and
13 Catawba over in South Carolina runs directly
14 through the middle of my district. I live about
15 four miles from that railroad. And I say that to
16 say that I'm not worried a bit about used fuel
17 being hauled right by my house.

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18 The transportation issues are a concern in
19 the past years, and I'm sure they're going to be
20 of concern in the future. But if you can read
21 some of the literature, you'll see that there's
22 probably been around 3,500-4,000 shipments and
23 only eight accidents; and half of the accidents
24 didn't even have fuel in the casks when there was
25 an accident. Also there's never been a cask that

2 cont. 1 broke during one of those eight accidents. Now,
2 by virtue of being on the Transportation Committee
3 in the House, I got placed on a study committee
4 for transportation of spent nuclear fuel. We held
5 hearings all over the state of Georgia and found
6 no conclusive evidence that transportation of
7 nuclear fuel should pose any threat to the
8 citizens of Georgia. A lot of the issues such as
9 this -- and we've heard from both sides, pro and
10 con, of transportation. A lot of times, and I saw
11 it a little bit in here today, the facts get
12 clouded with emotions every once in a while. And
13 for an issue like this, you can't let emotions, in
14 my opinion, cloud up what the facts and the
15 science of -- that there have already been studies
16 (sic) say. I kept a list of all the people that
17 talked at these hearings, and I've still got it.
18 I know who said what, and I know why they said
19 what, and I know where they're from. I know that
20 they're grandmas, I know that some of them are
21 students. And I understand issues on both sides
22 of this transportation problem. But, again,
23 there's no conclusive evidence, and the industry
24 has a proven track record.
25 Again, too, we're not talking about some

1 green goop; this is just a little pellet about the
2 size of an eraser. Besides, the fact that you
3 worry about air pollution -- that's a ton of coal,
4 150 gallons of gas and -- about 150 gallons of oil
5 and about 160 gallons of gas that that one little
6 pencil-eraser-sized pellet will produce the same
3 7 amount of electricity for. Therefore, it takes
8 care of a lot of pollution problems; it's a non-
9 polluting, efficient source. And approximately
10 half the power -- I mean, a fourth of the power in
11 Georgia comes from nuclear power plants. I would
12 like to see -- and I heard a question that was
13 asked, what are we doing about future nuclear
14 power plants. I would like to see some more built,
15 but it's too many government regulations that
16 would make it cost efficient to probably build
17 any. So I'm not sure we're going to see any more.
18 I would like to see, in my opinion, either
19 hydroelectric or nuclear power be the two power
20 sources for the United States.
4... 21 But the bottom line is that we have to do
22 something with spent fuel. The used fuel -- it
23 can be stored safely for many years to come. It
24 can be transported safely. And evidently
25 transportation must be the main topic of worry for

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most people here.

MR. LAWSON: You've got 30 seconds.

MR. McCALL: Okay. It's a safe and efficient method. Now, I was privileged to go to Yucca Mountain to the facility. And if it's anyplace ever to put used fuel, Yucca Mountain is it. There's mountain miles here, there's mountain miles there, and it's nothing but pack rats and scrub oaks in the middle. I understand the people from Nevada's concern. Everybody's got a "not in my backyard" ideal. But, you know, if they're going to put it, Yucca Mountain is it.

I have three kids, ages five, ten and fourteen. We have developed this way of producing power, we have developed a way to store it forever, for what we know as ever, and a safe transportation way. And I think we owe it to the kids in this country to take care of the problem. Thank you.

MR. LAWSON: Thank you, sir.

MS. SWEENEY: Thank you.

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