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US Department of Energy/Yucca Mountain  
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RECEIVED

JAN 19 2000

January 15, 2000

Dear Ms Dixon,

- 1... This letter is to protest the "SOLE" use of Yucca Mountain for a Geologic Repository for the disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high level radioactive waste and the transportation of same material across the country. This is not solving an environmental problem but creating the potential for a National environmental disaster.

I realize we need to do something with this waste; however, to have such a high concentration of this waste in one location is extremely dangerous.

Actually, it is total carelessness and pure insanity. Taking nuclear waste from 77 locations across the country and putting it into one small area does

- 2... not seem wise to me. What if the canisters holding this material begin to leak? I know that an environmental impact study is being conducted; however, this study is assuming that these canisters are 100% safe. How can we know they are safe since we've never really used these casks for centuries at a time? I also know that the study is sponsored or directed by the same Department of Energy that is making the proposal. A study cannot prove that they are safe for a long period of time. Moreover, we are inviting enemy countries and terrorists to focus and attack this "ONE" location to harm our country and its citizens.
- 1 cont.

- 3... My second objection is of concern to all Americans, and that is the transportation of this hazardous waste material across the United States. Everyone is impacted by this, not only the people in Nevada. We know that trucking companies are concerned about their bottom line and profits. We know that truckers try to drive as long as possible and as fast as possible to arrive at their destinations and get on with the next load. We know the statistics on accidents involving big rigs and trains. I read the draft environmental impact statement dated August 1999, issued by the

3 cont.

Department of Energy. I am not at all satisfied that transporting radioactive hazardous nuclear waste long distances is safe.

The fact that there is proposed regulation to protect us does not in any way ease my concerns. The FCC regulates airlines, yet just recently, we witnessed oxygen casks being placed as cargo on a passenger flight causing over 200 unnecessary deaths. Regulation is helpful, but does not sufficiently protect us and does not prevent disasters. A tragedy involved with the transportation of hazardous radioactive nuclear waste and the concentration of this same material in one small area would create a catastrophe the likes of which this beautiful planet has never yet experienced.

2 cont.

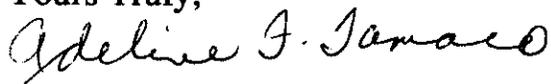
In the canister study, the tests conducted for a thirty foot free-fall seem hardly adequate. Trains and trucks often travel on bridges and overpasses, hills and mountains that are hundreds of feet high. What then? This nuclear waste will be coming from everywhere in the country, in some cases over 3000 miles. The risk is by far too great.

1 cont.

Isn't there a safer location in each state where small amounts of this waste can be safely stored to prevent the long trips across the country and the concentration of this hazardous waste in one location? Every state benefits from the use of nuclear power. Nevada is not the only state. To me, this is a perfect example of discrimination against a smaller state. I feel strongly that if the Department of Energy supports the repository at Yucca Mountain, then any study they sponsor will be swayed to prove this point. The Department of Energy can do all the studies they want but they can't convince us that this is safe. It doesn't take a study nor does it take scientists and geniuses to figure that this is highly dangerous. These studies should be stopped immediately so we can spend our efforts and tax money in building safe repositories in every state. This would allow us to spread the waste so if an accident or terrorist attack should happen the results would not be as devastating as in the situation where this hazardous waste were concentrated in one area only.

I thank you for your concern in this matter. I am sending my objection to the President, to the two congress persons, to both senators to make it very clear that I do not see how the Department of Energy can justify and prove that this is safe.

Yours Truly,



Adeline F. Tamaro



# Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste

## Comment Sheet

Name: Adeline F. TAMARO Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

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If you want to be on our mailing list to receive information about the Environmental Impact Statement or site characterization, check here.

Comments: (If possible, please reference section number and/or page number in document if applicable.)

*See attached letter sent  
to President Clinton  
Senator Reid  
Senator Bryan  
Congresswoman Berkeley  
Congressman Gibbons*

Please note: For your comment(s) to be considered in the Final Environmental Impact Statement, your comment(s) need to be received by the Department of Energy by February 9, 2000. To the extent practicable the Department will consider comments received after February 9.

Please feel free to attach additional pages; more postage may be needed. If you prefer to mail your comments, you may use the back side of this sheet as a postage-paid, self-mailer. To do so, fold in thirds along the dotted line so address and postage-paid notice are visible; then secure with tape.