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My name is Pamela Todorovich

I am a resident of St. Louis County, Mo.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight.

- 1... One of the major concerns associated with this building of the Radioactive Waste Repository at Yucca Mountain is how to get the waste from the nuclear reactors which are scattered across the country to Yucca Mountain.

If we choose to store the equivalent of 2.3million Hiroshima bombs in one place , that is , Yucca Mountain, then the waste must be shipped by truck or train thorough cities and towns like St. Louis , Webster Groves, Kirkwood, Jefferson City and Columbia.

- 1 cont. The trains and trucks have to travel through 43 states. 50million people live within a half mile radius of the train routes that are expected to be used. I haven't heard of how many people live along the interstate highways that might be chosen. I remember people on the east coast stranded along the highways unable to flee from an approaching hurricane. In case of a accident how many people and communities would be affected? Do any of these cities have an emergency evacuation plan or adequate hospital beds to isolate citizens who might be contaminated?

- 2 It is likely that St. Louis highways and railroad tracks will among the major routes. A train or truck carrying these wastes could pass through St. Louis every other day! I have read that each truck could carry the equivalent of 40 nuclear bombs, each train could carry the equivalent of 200 bombs. Freight trains and trucks with other dangerous cargo would also increase the risk. I am submitting several newspaper articles about accidents on St. Louis roadways on which these wastes would no doubt travel. If there were to be a collision of the truck or train carrying the radioactive waste cask, with a vehicle carrying flammable chemicals, the resulting hot fire could rupture the cask. Or the impact could cause a steel projectile to pierce the cask!

- 3 Legislation has been introduced in Congress to begin shipping the waste to Yucca Mountain before the Radioactive Waste Repository would be built. In 1998 the City of St. Louis Board of Aldermen passed a resolution to oppose shipping radioactive waste through St. Louis until a repository has been approved ,built and placed in operation.

The irradiated fuel rods could be stored at the reactor site in fuel pools or dry storage casks at least until the repository is in operation. It is projected that building the repository would take 10 years. With so much controversy about the geological stability of the Yucca Mountain site , one questions whether a repository should be built there at all. I don't think the casks containing the fuel rods should be sent there unless and until we are assured that structures are built that can isolate them.

- 4 In ten years we may have more information about the geology of Yucca Mountain. I hope the realization of the idiocy of continuing to generate MORE radioactive waste will come soon.