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EIS001732

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JAN 20 2000

1 MS. WILSON: [The first thing I would like to ask is why are these nuclear industry people, who have
2 such a vested interest, allowed to speak before the citizens who actually live along these routes?] To help
3 ease my mind and the minds of the estimated 50 million citizens along the shipping route, please respond
4 to these questions. [What guarantees are there that this nuclear waste will remain in storage permanently
5 at Yucca Mountain if shipped there? Is it at all possible that the waste would have to be transported again
6 at some point in the future?] [Have the plans for shipment or storage for the huge amount of radioactive
7 waste changed at all in light of the recent seismic activity in the area around Yucca Mountain?]

8 [Since this project is, at best, very expensive and very risky, why is the federal government taking the
9 responsibility for this high-level radioactive waste, bailing out the nuclear power industry? Why are these
10 utilities allowed to continue producing this extremely toxic, very long-lived waste if they're not able to
11 safely manage and store the vast amount of waste they have already produced?]

12 If this project is carried out, [once the high-level radioactive waste leaves the reactor sites, how will you
13 avoid accidents or sabotage all along the shipping route? Will emergency management personnel all
14 along the route be fully trained and equipped for a criticality accident? What can they really do other than
15 cordon off the area?] [Are you aware of how many schools, hospitals, office buildings and other densely
16 populated buildings are all along this route in the St. Louis area?]

17 [What is the ratio of emergency personnel who are trained to respond to high-level radioactive waste
18 transport accidents to the general population in any given area or, say, in Oakland, Missouri, where my
19 family lives?] [You see, I live less than half a mile from the tracks that were used for the Three Mile Island
20 shipments and also from the major interstate highway that runs through St. Louis.

21 In the event of a worst-case scenario accident in my community, would my family be able to escape our
22 home, schools or places of employment in time to avoid any contamination? And if we did escape, how
23 long would it be before we could return to normal life in our home and neighborhood? Who is liable for
24 any injury to citizens including the responding emergency personnel?] [Who is liable for damage to private
25 property in the event of an accident or sabotage that results in radioactive contamination?]

26 [Has there been any actual testing of the specific container that will be used for shipping and storage or has
27 it been mostly or even partially tested by computer simulation? How extensive have the fire tests been for
28 the casks that are to be used?] [During the Three Mile Island shipments there was an accident on the very
29 same highly-inspected and maintained train tracks. Luckily, the accident did not involve the TMI
30 shipment. The accident sticks in my mind because it was in a very hard to reach area that was also close
31 to highly populated communities. The accident involved train cars hanging suspended off of a train
32 trestle over a river. We do have rivers in Missouri. How many hours they hung there while high-
33 intensity, long-duration fire blazed beneath them while the emergency -- I'm sorry -- while the emergency
34 personnel struggled to get there, which severely delayed their response time.

35 What dangers would this type of accident present if the train cars were carrying the casks containing high-
36 level radioactive waste from nuclear reactors nation-wide?] [Also, what safeguards will be in place during
37 the shipping and storage process in case of failed equipment; for instance, O-ring failure as in the TMI
38 case, human error as when a buffer car with a TMI fuel train was labeled as containing calcium carbide,
39 an explosive compound, vehicular accidents such as the accident involving a citizen's car which stalled on
40 the tracks here in St. Louis and was hit by the TMI train, or sabotage? Unfortunately, terrorism is an
41 increasing reality in today's society that must not be ignored, and let me say here, terrorists are very
42 innovative people.]

12 Is there any possibility of gaseous pressure building up inside the shipping casks leading to leakage or
even an explosion? Are the gases in the casks to be monitored during transportation and storage before
placement in the repository, and if so, how is the monitoring to be performed and with what frequency?
13 In fact, how will all of the safeguards be monitored, both outside and inside of the shipping casks during
the long trip to Yucca Mountain over all types of terrain and through all sorts of weather?

13 MR. BROWN: If you can wrap up in about a minute or so.

14 MS. WILSON: Okay. I would appreciate it if you would answer my questions thoroughly enough to try
to convince me that the thousands of shipments of nuclear waste that you want to send through my
neighborhood are no threat to my family. I admit it, I will be a hard sell, and we all are when it comes to
the safety of our children. Please respect my request that everyone involved in this proposal for the
shipping and storage of these deadly materials reconsider this project.

It is up to you to take the responsibility to make the best and safest choices for all of the families who live
anywhere near the potential shipping route or disposal site. Consider the lives you will be endangering.
Consider the legacy you will be leaving distant generations if shipment of this high-level radioactive
waste to Yucca Mountain proceeds as planned and the nuclear power operations are allowed to fill up all
of the recovered space at their sites with yet more high-level radioactive waste. Use your authority,
expertise and influence to call for the immediate halt of the production of nuclear waste and demand the
intelligent and diligent handling of the existing radioactive waste, a poison that will threaten generations
far into the future. Thank you.