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MR. SCHARFF: Hi. My name is John Scharff. I live at 5007 Elmhurst in Las Vegas, and I'd like to be sent directly the answers to these comments.

The first thing I would like to talk about is the fact that this -- this whole hearing is flawed. We didn't receive any of the information on the changes that are proposed until the last meeting yesterday. I don't think there's anybody in this room that probably got them.

And so therefore I request that other hearings are scheduled and that people are given more time, because no scientist would try and review -- review changes in a project of this magnitude without having the time to go over the documents. No lawyer would even listen to this.

This is a joke that the DOE in concert with the NRC has put over on us. Don't anybody be fooled in this room. They are actively holding this so that they can make people think that they were giving people a chance to bring up critical issues, but the truth of the matter is is that they're doing this so that they can disqualify what we're saying because we haven't had the time to prepare what -- what the true challenges are.

But I'll go through a few of the things that I've been able to find in the last twenty-four hours.

Okay. They talk about after, you know, more than a decade of research, scientists now have a better understanding of Yucca Mountain site and of geologic disposal.

Okay. Is that because every dump the DOE has ever instituted has always leaked? Have been closed down in many instances?

Now I demand that scientifically they go over the records of the DOE and figure out what percentage they've been successful at in protecting the people. I can tell you, and I won't have to use any fingers.

Okay. The next thing they talk about is total system performance, and it will work within the natural system of Yucca Mountain.

Well, what is so natural about taking things out of the ground and creating plutonium and then just putting them back in the ground after they've been changed?

We all know that plutonium is the deadliest substance on earth. One minute speck of it is enough to kill you. As little as a gram could probably kill most of the people in Las Vegas.

Okay. Now we'll go on to some other things here. They say that they're not proposing to substantially change the guidelines.

So what are they saying when they want to change it? They're saying that no one reason will be enough. Leaks into the water table that poison most of Nevada? That won't be enough reason. It will have to be something else besides that.

Okay. If it -- if the mountaintop blows off, that won't be enough, because it will have to have another reason.

Okay. So yeah, we have ninety days from the day they put it on the Federal Register, but the thing is if you can't get the information till twenty-four hours before this last hearing, something's really wrong.

We requested this like many, many times at the Yucca Mountain Project office, and I -- I would like them to check in to see how many times they copied this pro -- proposed rule change and distributed copies to the Yucca Mountain Project office and how many went out.

And I bet you that it's less copies than in this room, the people.

And so we have many reasons that this is a sham hearing. This is totally a scam on people.

Okay. Now that -- later on here they talk about understanding how the different components of the proposed repository system would function together.

Okay. So what they're trying to do is they're trying to -- to look at each component and say well, this part of the car, the brakes, you know, work, but they're for a Volkswagen, but we've got a dump truck, so we still got brakes.

Okay. Here's another thing. Distinct independent findings on individual technical factors would not be required but could be examined to evaluate their individual contributions to individual performance.

In other words, well, we don't have to look at things, but we could.

Okay. Let's go further down here. The proposed rule would use system performance guidelines similar to those contained in the existing guidelines.

This is a lie, okay. Yucca Mountain is just so riddled with faults, I -- my personal history is in 1976, I was at the first protest at a nuclear power plant in the United States, and it was up at Trojan Nuclear Power Plant in Rainier.

The citizens of the State of Oregon went on-line after many, many years of fighting to shut it down because earthquake faults underneath that.

Okay. It took tooth and nail and fighting and many, many people standing up to fight it, but here we have -- they're proposing to put all the plutonium from all the reactors -- not just from America, but from other parts of the world in this mountain in an area that's undisturbed.

Basically Yucca Mountain isn't -- isn't the area at the test site where they've been shooting off the bombs. I mean, give me a break, man, you know. There is life out there to be worried about. There is clean water in that area.

So, anyway, in Oregon, the people, when they found out that this thing was built on earthquakes faults, they shut it down.

I'm saying we don't want to have to do that here because if we do, it's going to take every single person in Nevada being out there at the gate of that plant, and it will happen. I guarantee you that you better figure on how many activists there are in this country and then figure out in the world, because, you know what, this is a world problem.

When Chernobyl went off, we know the figures were lies. We know immediately 18,000 people died, and that over 150,000 people within the next year came down with leukemia and died.

Now this is released by the top -- top Russian scientist that was in charge of cleaning up Chernobyl, who died of radiation poisoning, and there are videotapes of this available.

And so if you folks want to be educated, I say go out and look for the information, because you won't find it from the DOE.

The government has called the DOE to task and said they are failures and what they are doing. They want to get rid of the DOE because they're flawed.

We know it's a nuclear Mafia. We know the amount of money to be made on that waste being transported is more than they ever will make off the power.

We know when these trucks travel on the roads, they don't figure in well, this truck which is 750 degrees because it's heated up from this waste is sitting there at a stoplight.

Well, how many trucks, if you have going through Las Vegas hundreds of trucks a day stopping at this stoplight are heating up that spot and people behind that truck, they stop on that spot after it's left.

Folks, this is the most ridiculous plan we've ever seen in fighting nuclear power, because number one, you've already spoiled the earth. There is radiation poisoning all over this earth, and I didn't do it. Excuse me.

I mean, this -- this is a sad situation that isn't going to be cleaned up this generation or next generation, not even in a hundred generations, and I -- I just -- I hate to get emotional about it, but let's get back down to the facts on the matter.

You know, the facts are is that, okay, that the NRC's final rule implementing these radiation protection standards requirements that assess and compare other types of sites would not be included.

So they know that this mountain here is not going to hold all the waste. They know right now there's over seventy-five percent more than they've got room to propose YMP Project to store it.

So what they're doing is they've sliding this one by us and they'll have another hole done on the rules before this one is even finished.

Okay. So go over a few more things that I find really interesting here.

One is under the land ownership and control, okay. The ownership of the land, both the geologic repository, operations area and the site shall be located in and on lands that are either acquired lands under the jurisdiction and control of DOE or lands permanently withdrawn and reserved for its use, and I submit that this is not under DOE control.

This is under the Shoshone control and the treaty of Ruby Valley of 1863. The DOE are trespassers. The treaty is a treaty. They are a sovereign nation and their people have suffered from the work that the Department of Energy, Atomic Energy Commission and the NRC have put into their soil and their water.

I think it's time that we looked into the facts of the downwinders and the people that have died. They can't speak anymore because they're gone, and there are thousands.

Okay. These lands shall be held free and clear of all encumbrances, if significant.

Well, I think it's pretty significant that the native people held this land for thousands of years, and when we came, it was a very beautiful place. People didn't die from, you know, being exposed to the nature.

We brought that on in the last fifty-five years, and I say that, you know, the DOE, the government has said that they don't think they're handling things right.

I want that to be entered into my comments that I want them to look at their past track record, percentage of times that they've had dumps that leak and extrapolate whether this dump will leak.

1... Okay. And the thing is they, you know -- I want -- I want all these comments included in the DEIS comments because it is unfair that we should have to sit here and debate the rules at this late stage of the game after the DES public -- DEIS public hearing is already over, and a lot of these people are just lay people like me and they don't understand that if we say something now about the -- you know, about the DEIS and not just about the changes, that it doesn't count.

So most everything I've heard, you know, is going to be disqualified because it doesn't pertain to what this meeting is about.

...1 And so I'm requesting that anything everybody says be put on my DEIS statement if it has to be that way.

2... Okay. The other thing I say is I demand they stop this Yucca Mountain Project because the water has been denied to the project.

...2 On the -- there is -- the environmental assessment says nothing about, you know, what kind of impact having all these trucks and all this water being trucked in, and without the water, the project is a dead duck, and, you know, if it looks like a duck and walks like a duck, figure it out.

Okay. Okay. Well, I think that pretty much covers it, and I'm sorry if I seemed a little stern, but, you know, this is a matter of life and death.

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