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United States Senate

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San Bernadino, CA 2/22/00
Exhibit 1-1

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Senator Boxer*

Statement of Senator Barbara Boxer, Hearing on the Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Dump February 22, 2000

I would like to thank all the residents of San Bernardino County who took the time to come here today, and I also want to thank the Department of Energy for agreeing to my request to hold a hearing on Yucca Mountain in San Bernardino County.

- 1 Yucca Mountain is very much a California issue. Many respected scientists warn that discharges
- 2 from the dump could contaminate California's groundwater. Others argue that the transport of high-level nuclear waste through Inyo, San Bernardino, and neighboring California counties creates an unacceptable risk of accidental discharge.

Yucca Mountain is only seventeen miles from the California border and the Death Valley National Park. As everyone in this room knows, the park creates hundreds of jobs, brings tourists to San Bernardino County, and has contributed greatly to regional economic growth and stability.

- 3 San Bernardino County should not and will not risk irreparable damage to the public health and regional economic prosperity on a ill-advised and ill-tested nuclear dump. Before proceeding any further, additional research on Yucca Mountain's effect on California is absolutely essential.