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U.S. Department of Energy
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Greetings,

Thank you for the forum to comment upon the proposed Repository for Nuclear Waste at Yucca Mountain.

1 I object to the disposal of nuclear waste in this location for two main reasons. My primary objection is that while I recognize and applaud the effort to safely dispose of this waste, the act of storing creates a sense that nuclear matter can actually be disposed of at all. We must stop causing any nuclear waste of any kind because the length of time of toxicity is beyond human control and geologic predictability. In 10,000 years plutonium ceases to be a powerful killer and genetic disrupter to all forms of life. It would be the height of arrogance to assume responsibility for the wishes of those living now and those unborn whose DNA could be affected by the accidental release of the amount of radioactivity involved in this project. Therefore, I object to all projects that use or encourage the use of radioactive materials and support a nuclear moratorium.

2 My secondary objection is to the transport of nuclear waste via rail across the continent. The St. Louis Metro area where I live is a crossroads of these rail lines. Even one accident and spill would be too many for those living nearby, and the potential for accidents cannot be completely eliminated. My state is dotted with current nuclear waste sites. Anyone living near one would wish it a thousand miles away in case of disaster, but I believe they should stay as reminders to us, that in our interconnected ecosystem, there is no "away".

I strongly object to the proposed Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Site.

Sincerely,

Margaret Mueller
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c: R. Durbin, U.S. Senate