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SEP 10 2001

To: YMP_SR@ymp.gov, abby@acj.carson-city.nv.us, citizenalert@earthlink.net, lvcitizenalert@earthlink.net, thomlaw@pacbell.net

cc:

Subject: yucca mountain testimony

Part of Records Package / Supplement / Correction

dear doe

twenty six years ago this december i testified to your predecessors at the aec in salt lake city about their proposal to dispose of high level nuclear waste at yucca mountain, nevada. i have followed the developments on the proposal since then. i would like to share my thoughts once again.

yes, we have a problem. we have an amassing amount of high level nuclear waste that, no matter what is done with it, will remain a threat to all life as we know it for eons. we can delve deeply into specifics and what the scientific and technological worlds believe they know now about the future. the twenty-five years of changing 'facts' and theories should be enough to convince you that we just don't know. i know i don't know. my concern is that you think you do and are willing to make a determination on that mercurial knowledge. if you were starting with the premise that you don't know and work from that base the whole discussion would change: 'given that we can't know all that needs to be known to prudently and humanely handle these materials in the interest of the well being of all beings and all elements for all time, what shall we do....?'

my suggestion, as it was twenty five years ago, is that, like a turning off the faucet when a bathtub is flooding, all production of nuclear wastes cease. then maintain and observe them in situ. as technology and science find new means of handling them, so be it, in situ. to move them creates more problems, more potential problems, than those already being dealt with.

i appreciate the work you have done and the constraints you are under having chosen to do this work. when that work and those constraints limit your perspective as a member of the enduring life of the planet you work against yourself as well as all of us.

i urge you to reject the plan to dispose of nuclear waste at the nevada test site as creating an unnecessary problem that adds to the ones we are already faced with; it is not a solution.

thank you,

susan orr
1388 48th street
sacramento, ca 95819
916-452-7957
artasa2d@aol.com