

MERRITT K. (IKE) YOCHUM

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RECEIVED

SEP 14 2001

CAROL HANLON

U.S. Department of Energy,
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office,
(M/S#025)
P.O.Box 30307,
North Las Vegas, NV. 89036

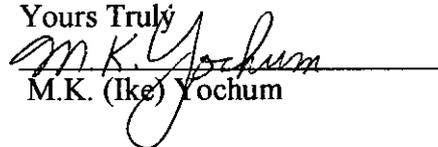
Dear Carol;

Please note the enclosed copies of letters to the editor. These were sent to 16 Nevada newspapers, I have no knowledge of how many of the papers printed them, however I do know that a number of them did.

I am not opposed to a nuclear waste storage facility in Nevada, in fact, as you may have noted, I am very much in favor of it. However, what I am opposed to is the assumption by Federal officials that the State of Nevada is a Territory, to be administered under Art. IV U.S. Constitution. Nevada was admitted to the Union as a sovereign State on Oct. 30th 1864 under the same terms and conditions of all the other States. As such, this State owns all of the un appropriated lands within her exterior borders. And as such is the landlord of all such lands, and has enacted Legislation to that extent.

However, you are authorized to count my position as favorable to the storage facility being located in Nevada.

Yours Truly


M.K. (Ike) Yochum

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Date: 4/8/01

To the Editor;

Recently, Governor Guinn announced that he was pledging \$5,000,000 to fight the establishment of a nuclear waste storage facility in Nevada. This proposal, it seems to me, is ill advised. There is no need to spend this kind of money on a lost cause. Spending money will not solve the problem. However, courage will stop all of the falderall and put the matter to rest once and for all. Governor Guinn. You, as governor of this Sovereign State have all the authority, and I believe also the courage needed to do just that. Enforce the Nevada Public Lands Ownership Act of 1979: NRS Ch. 321.

However; putting a stop to the usurpation by the Feds. is one thing, another is to capitalize on a great opportunity. It seems that the generators of nuclear waste are more than willing to supply a valuable resource to Nevada at no charge.

The so-called "dangerous waste" is no more dangerous than coal, and in fact, is much less dangerous than the fall-out of emissions from a coal fired electric generating plant, such as those at Valmy, Nv. This so-called "dangerous waste" is reclaimable and there is a market for the reclaimed product, known as nuclear fuel.

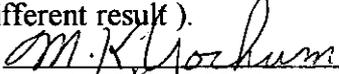
To continue this non-sense, scare tactic and ludite resistance is to throw away a great opportunity for the State of Nevada and it's citizens.

It seems to me that a more sensible approach to this mythical "problem of highly dangerous" nuclear waste is to: 1. Enforce the law referred to above and, 2. Dictate the terms by which we will accept this gift. (sort of a brer rabbit and the briar patch thing)

Some suggestions: 1. Demand a guaranteed continuous supply of waste material, exclusively for Nevada. 2. Require the suppliers, ie. the Federal Government, to construct a reclamation facility at their expense, at some site in this State. 3. Encourage electric power generators to build nuclear power plants in Nevada. 4. Sell the reclaimed nuclear fuel to the highest bidders.

The entire nation is now faced with an imminent energy debacle. The time is now at hand, and Nevada is in the position to make Nevada a major energy producer and exporter of electrical energy.

The alternative is to be humiliated by an oppressive Federal mandate. To continue to resist the inevitable is just plain foolish, if not insane. (insanity has been described as doing the same thing over and over, expecting a different result).


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Date; 8/20/01

To the Editor:

At last, a crack in the wall of ignorance. Thank you, Ex. Gov. List. I am pleased that at least one high ranking political figure in Nevada has seen the light at the end of the tunnel of political correctness, mendacity and ignorance.

Gov. Kenny Guinn observes that public opinion is his motivation for opposing Ex. Gov. List's decision. That is understandable, however, public opinion is usually formulated from what politicians tell them, you don't have to be a rocket scientist to figure that one out.

I agree with Sen. Bill O'Donnell, we should be negotiating for the best terms. The so called "nuclear waste" is not waste, it is a valuable resource which can be a great bonanza for the State of Nevada. The Feds want to pay us to take this valuable resource which is reclaimable, we can then sell the reclaimed nuclear fuel back to the nuclear energy industry at a profit. How can you beat that?

We keep on hearing this politically correct klap trap from our elected representatives about the mythical hazards of nuclear waste in transport. The fact is, so I am informed by persons whom I believe to know what they are speaking of, that a shipment of nuclear waste would not pose nearly as great a health threat to Nevada residents as a train load of coal, that is before it is burned to produce electrical energy. What comes out of the smoke stack poses a far greater threat to Nevada residents than nuclear waste that is shipped in containers that have been tested in every conceivable fashion; from crashing into it with railroad locomotives to dropping it from great heights on to steel spikes with no breach of the containers. I wonder if it ever occurred to consensus sensitive politicians that if the public was ever exposed to the truth, that the public might just think other than what Gov. Guinn now thinks that they think..

Further; had the cowardly Nevada State Senate not killed the enforcement amendments to the Public Lands Ownership Act of 1979: NRS Ch. 321 at the last legislative session we would not now be negotiating, we would be dictating the terms referred to above.

Wake up sheeple it's later than you think.


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