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13 MR. ANDERSON: My name is Mike Anderson. I

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14 too am from Esmeralda County. I'm also the -- I'm the

15 Fire Chief for the town of Goldfield, and --

16 MODERATOR LAWSON: Before you go any further,

17 I have to ask for silence in this room, so that we can

18 hear, the Court Reporter can hear, and everybody else

19 can. The people who are at the back of the room, if

20 you have to speak, would you go outside so it doesn't

21 interfere with people in understanding what's being

22 said. Thank you. Please go ahead.

23 MR. ANDERSON: As I was saying, I'm the Fire

24 Chief for the town of Goldfield, and I also serve on

25 the Esmeralda County Local Emergency Planning

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1 Committee.

2 As a trained responder, I recognize that in

3 many respects, the transportation of radioactive

4 materials may be safer and less of a threat to public

5 health and the environment than are shipments of other

6 types of hazardous materials which routinely travel

7 through Esmeralda County and the town of Goldfield.

8 The Esmeralda County Commission and its first

9 responders are ultimately responsible for the health,
10 safety and well being of the county residents.

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11 Currently, Esmeralda County does not have the
12 volunteers to staff adequate training to respond to a
13 major radioactive materials incident. It is therefore
14 vitally important that the Department of Energy begin a
15 constructive dialogue with the county concerning
16 mitigation of impacts from high-level radioactive waste
17 transportation to Yucca Mountain. The Department
18 should also begin developing policy in cooperation with
19 local governments on a wide range of issues, including
20 transportation modes, routes, inspections, management
21 and other issues of importance. Yucca Mountain is
22 probably going to happen, whether we like it or not.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No it isn't.

24 MR. ANDERSON: So we better start doing
25 something to protect our interests and people that live

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1 in the state. Thank you.