

SEP 05 2001

0225 RON CLAIR: I was looking at you folks.

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1 Looks like we lost one of our panelists here. She's on  
2 her way.

3 I've been watching you a good bit of the  
4 night and I've always been trained to take notes and  
5 I'm surprised you guys -- I don't know -- a couple of  
6 you guys have been taking notes. I notice the young  
7 lady had a whole binder there. I guess you're going to  
8 review this stuff tomorrow. But my point is --

9 MODERATOR BROWN: Tomorrow has already  
10 arrived.

11 MR. CLAIR: I have one point to make on this.  
12 It's kind of important. I noticed this gentleman make  
13 a note when he saw the young lady, Susan Jones, I think  
14 it was, made a comment that tickled his fancy and he  
15 wrote something down and I think maybe it might be a  
16 good idea for you guys to once in a while, if you see  
17 something very important, you might make a note. I  
18 hate to tell you what to do, but I've always gone to  
19 meetings with paper in hand and I always make notes. I  
20 thought maybe that I would just reprimand you a little  
21 bit.

22 How can the Department of Energy be so dumb?

23 I don't know. We must have an awful lot of smart

24 people here. We seem to know all the answers. But

25 it's amazing how the Department of Energy can be so

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1 stupid. I don't understand this. The general public

2 seems to know all the answers and we tell them what we

3 want and they don't listen.

4 This great country of ours is supposed to be

5 by the people. Another gentleman a little bit before

6 me, maybe five or 10 back, talked about the law and let

7 the law handle it. Well, that's a bunch of baloney.

8 The law is the people. And we are the people. And we

9 want to be heard. And we're the ones that make the

10 decisions. We tell you people and we tell our

11 Congressmen and Senators what to do. We saw them on

12 the screen a little bit ago. Agreed, that they know

13 what to do. They tell the government what to do. They

14 are the government. We are the government. It's

15 important that we be heard.

16 It's rather obvious to me tonight that

17 everybody here, almost everybody, the consensus is 95

18 percent or more, want certain things done. We don't

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19 want, as Mayor Goodman said, the crap put here. We  
20 should be talking about solutions. I think we should  
21 be talking about solutions.

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22 How dumb can the DOE be? I mean, let's talk  
23 about solutions. I haven't heard a lot about solutions  
24 tonight. I jotted a couple down. Somebody said let's  
25 do it right the first time. And then I think the

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1 gentleman, if I'm not mistaken, went on to say that the  
2 right thing to do is to put the junk here. Well, I  
3 don't think that's the right thing to do. The right  
4 thing to do is do the right thing.

5 Why not leave the junk where it is? The  
6 least expensive thing is to leave it where it is and  
7 let the 110 sites or 43 states, whatever it is, leave  
8 them control what they're going to do with their junk.  
9 Not give us their junk. We'll take care of the junk  
10 that we cause perhaps. Let's hope so. But why move it  
11 all over the country putting people in jeopardy when  
12 the most economical thing is to just leave it where it  
13 is and bury it or whatever? That's what we're going to  
14 have to do with ours.

15 I've got a comment here. I hope the

16 Department of Energy -- I don't know how they cannot  
17 get the message that we're trying to tell them -- I  
18 hope that they may fear us. We're the people. Giving  
19 our liberty, giving us liberty to control our own  
20 state's destiny. I don't think the government is  
21 supposed to tell states what they're supposed to do. I  
22 think the states are supposed to tell the government  
23 what to do. I mean, the states should have some  
24 rights.

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25 I've got to mention something that Thomas

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1 Jefferson said. I may have it all jammed up and not  
2 quite exactly true, the right way he said it. He said,  
3 when the people fear the government, it's called  
4 tyranny. Well, tyranny is absolute power and, well, we  
5 have a lot of tyranny coming our way from our form of  
6 government. He said -- I repeat -- when the people  
7 fear the government, it's called tyranny. When the  
8 government fears the people, it's called liberty.  
9 That's what we want and I still say: How dumb can the  
10 DOE be? Thank you very much.