

550971

14311 SW 74th Court
Miami, Fl. 33158
September 11, 2002

Lake Barrett, Director
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
Department of Energy
Washington, Dc 20585

SEP 26 2001

Dear Mr. Barrett:

Thank you for the opportunity of reviewing the Yucca Mountain Preliminary Site Suitability Evaluation (PSSE) and commenting on the program direction.

It is my technical judgement based on over forty years work as a nuclear physicist, that the PSSE is a fair and complete evaluation of the Yucca Mountain and provides an adequate basis for a finding that the site is suitable for development of a repository. I believe that the Secretary of Energy should recommend the site to the President as soon as possible.

I believe that the President should conclude that the Yucca Mountain site is qualified for the preparation and submission of a construction license application to the NRC.

I do not believe that the State of Nevada should have a opportunity to approve or disapprove the construction of a repository at Yucca Mountain. I believe that this is a Federal action that is not subject to local approval. The entire nation has benefitted from the nuclear fuel used by the armed forces and the energy created by the civilian nuclear power program. Now is the time to complete that process and provide for the safe disposal of the by- products of this use. I believe that this is an instance where the Federal Government has priority. I believe that politics will dictate that the state of Nevada will disapprove the project unless you move Fort Knox outside of Las Vegas.

Very truly yours,


James R. Tomonto