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CRAIG SCHNEIDER <cschneider54@home.com> on 10/13/2001 08:28:21 AM

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To: ymp\_sr@ymp.gov  
CC:

OCT 14 2001

Subject: Yucca Mountain Site Comments

Part of Records Package / Supplement / Correction

October 13, 2001

Ms. Carol Hanlon  
S&ER Products Manager  
U. S. Department of Energy  
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office  
P.O. Box 30307 M/S 025  
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0707

Dear Ms. Hanlon,

I am writing in response to a request for comments on establishment of a national nuclear repository at the Yucca Mountain site. I would like very much for your recommendation to President Bush to be in favor of proceeding with the Yucca Mountain site with all haste.

Many years of effort have been spent on siting a national disposal facility and the Department has identified a suitable location. The project has been through pork barrel politics and political wrangling long enough. This situation has been the largest illness, plaguing the entire nuclear industry, since Three Mile Island. Lawsuits have been filed, and won by the industry, regarding the government's breach of contract for storing commercial nuclear waste. The utilities have upheld their end, by making payments for all the energy produced since the contract began, now it is time for the government to produce.

Storing high-level radioactive waste at one location is a better option than continuing to accumulate spent nuclear fuel at more than 70 sites throughout the nation. The nuclear industry has been handling, storing and transporting spent nuclear fuel for years and the containers used for these purposes have been designed and built to specifications that can withstand extreme conditions. These containers have been put through exhaustive testing and have an outstanding record of safety and performance. Storage and transport containers, not to mention the Yucca Mountain site itself, are much safer locations than a typical spent fuel pool or dry cask storage facility at a power plant. With the recent events of September 11, and the emphasis President Bush has placed on homeland security, I cannot see how any further delay can be justified.

The National Academy of Sciences recently affirmed that the geologic disposal is the only scientifically and technically credible solution to the high-level radioactive waste storage issue. The scientific evidence concludes that Yucca Mountain meets or exceeds the criteria for this type of facility.

For these reasons, I urge the Department to recommend the Yucca Mountain site to the President.

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Sincerely,

Craig Schneider  
128 14th St  
Rapids City, IL 61278

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