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Kim Conkling <kimeow@unm.edu> on 10/15/2001 08:30:56 AM

To: S&WE Products Manager Carol Hanlon <YMP_SR@ymp.gov>
cc:

Subject: Keep Yucca Mountain Nuclear-Free!

Part of Records Package / Supplement / Correction

Kim Conkling
4622 12th st
Albuquerque, NM 87107

October 15, 2001

S&WE Products Manager Carol Hanlon
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 30307 M/S 025
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0307

S&WE Products Manager Hanlon:

I am writing to express my deep concern over the Yucca Mountain Project. The proposed site is on an active earthquake zone, and is positioned above an underground aquifer which is the only source of drinking water for nearby residents. This arrangement poses too much risk for contamination of groundwater by radioactive particles. The site is also positioned on land with disputed ownership, that has been claimed by the Shoshone tribe for over 100 years. Polluting this land would be adding insult to injury for Native American people in Nevada. The radioactive waste would also be moved across up to 43 states in order to reach the proposed site, adding a great risk factor in its transport. It is a bad choice for a nuclear waste repository, and the process railroading it toward approval is also flawed. How can the Secretary of Energy be preparing to recommend Yucca Mountain for a high-level nuclear waste dump when thousands of public comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement still have not been addressed? Without a Final Environmental Impact Statement, a detailed transportation scenario, finalized Siting Guidelines, or a licensing rule, the Department of Energy lacks the basis for consideration of site suitability. The public cannot have confidence in any recommendation that arises from such a dramatically flawed process. I urge you to abandon the Yucca Mountain Project, in favor of another site choice which is more practical and less dangerous.

Sincerely,

Kim Conkling