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14 MS. WEINBERG: Hello, my name is Piper
15 Weinberg. I work with the Shundahai Network. And I'd
16 like to read or to present part of a declaration that
17 was drafted on October 7th, this weekend, at the Skull
18 Valley Reservation, drafted by a group of people,
19 including the Skull Valley Goshutes, and this
20 declaration was signed by hundreds of people, and it
21 was prompted because Private Fuel Storage, which is a
22 consolidation of eight nuclear utilities, wants to dump
23 40,000 metric tons of high-level nuclear waste on the
24 Skull Valley Goshute Reservation. This is a
25 Declaration for a Nuclear-Free Great Basin.

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1 We have come together on the sovereign land
2 of the Skull Valley Band Goshutes, bridging diverse
3 cultural, racial, social, economic and gender
4 boundaries to stop Yucca Mountain, Private Fuel
5 Storage, Envirocare, International Uranium Corporation,
6 and other companies and government projects that want
7 to unload their dangerous nuclear waste on our
8 communities.

9 The legendary ancestral lands of the

10 Indigenous Peoples have been used for testing nuclear
11 weapons, experimenting with biological and chemical
12 warfare agents, incinerating and burning hazardous
13 wastes, and mining uranium. This disproportionate
14 toxic burden has culminated in the current attempts to
15 dump much of the nation's nuclear waste in the Great
16 Basin.

17 We have long been assured of the safety of
18 nuclear energy and nuclear weapons. We found out the
19 hard way that is not true. Federal and state
20 governments have neglected to take responsibility for
21 the health programs that have resulted from this toxic
22 legacy. Especially to downwinders and uranium mining
23 victims.

24 They have also neglected their fiduciary
25 responsibility to native nations, which has resulted in
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1 economic deprivation that has made our native nations,
2 which has resulted in economic deprivation that has
3 made our native nations vulnerable to economic
4 blackmail and ecological abuses.

5 United we commit to educate, organize and
6 empower our local communities to stop the pattern of

7 abusing our natural environment. We commit to building
8 a citizen campaign of awareness and action to stop the
9 Department of Energy and Private Fuel Storage from
10 transporting nuclear wastes across the country to Yucca
11 Mountain and Skull Valley.

12 We also commit to oppose the generation of
13 more nuclear waste and ensure the cleanup of toxic and
14 radiological contamination on native lands and all
15 people of color and disenfranchised communities of this
16 country.

17 To accomplish this, we will promote
18 sustainable economic development for the native nations
19 that are the target of the waste proposals. We will
20 honor all treaty rights. We will take the issue to the
21 states, where the Department of Energy and Private Fuel
22 Storage operate and hold their member utilities
23 accountable for the waste they have produced.

24 Every living creature has a right to a
25 healthy sustainable, equitable and safe environment.

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1 To meet these needs, all communities have a viable,
2 sustainable economic base that protects the diversity
3 of our communities.

4 Nuclear waste jeopardizes the most basic
5 human right, which is a clean environment. We commit
6 to end the cycle of abuse that has been initiated by
7 our government and corporations.

8 And again the statement was signed by
9 hundreds of people this weekend, from across the United
10 States. And it's also important to note, I think, that
11 someone earlier said a lot of the opposition to Yucca
12 Mountain was hysterical and emotional. But it is
13 important to note that on November 11th, the Secretary
14 of Energy himself canceled all low-level nuclear waste
15 shipments and all nuclear waste shipments, because he
16 decided it was too dangerous to have waste targets,
17 waste traveling in our nation, and roads and rails.
18 So -- that's my statement.