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2 MR. TOMIYASU: My concern was I've been
3 reading the newspaper and there's no one really
4 addressing the water situation, the underground
5 water situation from Yucca Mountain. Now they're
6 talking about 10,000 years, that the -- the casks
7 that they're burying this -- the nuclear waste will
8 last 10,000 years. Who knows? I don't think it
9 will last 10,000 years, and I don't think that --
10 that -- number one, that in just a few years some of
11 those casks may break at Yucca Mountain, and when
12 they do, they'll get down into the underground water
13 resources, down in the cracks and the crevices of
14 the -- of the underground at depths of anywheres
15 from 100 foot to maybe 500,000 foot deep, follow the
16 cracks and crevices and come on down into the Las
17 Vegas Valley because they'll be coming by the cracks
18 and all of that, the -- the -- the breaks in the
19 surface of the soil; that is, you know, take that
20 depth of maybe 1,000, 1,500, 2,000 feet is
21 throughout the entire state of Nevada.

22 So there is no guarantee and no one has
23 ever done anything, any real experiments, or run any

24 tests on the water that is entering the underground

25 water system up there right at Yucca Mountain,

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1 Beatty and all out through there, and then where is

2 it going to? It's got to be -- a lot of it has got

3 to be coming to the Las Vegas Valley.

4 Now when I was a kid born here in 1918,

5 there was probably 500 wells. At one time here

6 about eight, ten years ago there was over 30,000

7 wells drilled in the Las Vegas Valley under permit.

8 My dad had one of the early wells that was drilled

9 prior to 1913 Artesian Water -- Water Rights Law.

10 It was drilled in 1908. That was Permit Number --

11 Number 2303 from the State of Nevada, State

12 Engineer's Office, and now today there is about

13 6,000 wells still being used in the Las Vegas

14 Valley, so there's about 24,000 wells that

15 haven't -- aren't being used now, but they're still

16 drilled. A lot of them are -- have been capped off

17 by the State because once the -- the Las Vegas

18 Valley Water District runs their water supplies to a

19 district, everyone on wells that has the revokable

20 water rights permits; that is, prior -- subsequent

21 to 1913 Artesian Water Rights Law, have to cut off
22 the -- they have to give the water back to the
23 State. And they -- the State then comes in and just
24 takes and dumps wet concrete down in the hole and
25 plugs the hole up so they can't be used.

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1 So but I'm -- I'm still on a water well
2 because I had my well drilled about 25 years ago and
3 of course it -- I have -- part of my water is prior
4 to 1913 Artesian Water Rights Law and some of it is
5 subsequent to that, so my water well permit,
6 although it is a permit that has been issued since
7 1913, I have tied into my dad's old granddad water
8 rights and then applied it to the water that is
9 being produced or pumped from the well that I'm
10 using today.

11 And the Water District water is running
12 right in front of our property, but we have enough
13 water to take care of our -- our residential needs
14 and -- and what little farming I'm doing to where we
15 don't -- we don't have to -- it's not exciting the
16 State Engineer's Office at all, that they haven't
17 come out there and said, "We've got to shut your

18 damn water down" or anything like that because they
19 know that I have some old granddad rights, and so
20 they -- they don't -- apparently they -- they
21 haven't -- we're not using enough water.

22 Our well is on a water well, you know, a
23 permit. We have a meter on there, and so we call in
24 the meter readings, you know, twice a year, and
25 apparently it's not exciting them enough to where

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1 they need to write me a letter, you know, saying,
2 "Well you've got to cut it off at a certain point"
3 or so on and so forth.

4 So anyhow, but what I'm getting at is
5 this: I have seen nothing but artesian water --
6 artesian water that we use. My dad used it on
7 his -- on his farm when he farmed 120 acres. He had
8 500 gallons a minute coming out of artesian water
9 well. That flowed for 60 years and that was drilled
10 in 1908. In about 1968 the -- the well started
11 drying up and today it's just -- well there's just a
12 big blank hole there. In fact they have -- people
13 have bought that property so that they've plugged
14 that hole up, so now they've got grass and stuff

15 growing all over the area where -- where the
16 water -- where my water -- my dad's water well
17 artesian flow was flowing for 60 years.
18 I don't think there's an artesian well in
19 the -- in the Las Vegas Valley now, in the Las Vegas
20 Valley Artesian Water District, so we all were --
21 everyone is relying on pumping water from anywheres
22 from -- like mine is 130 foot. That's the static
23 pressure on -- static height on it. Okay. There's
24 some people that I know is pumping 300 foot. Some
25 of them are even pumping deeper than that because

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1 their -- they've had their wells drilled to a
2 thousand foot. So they're undoubtedly pulling water
3 from maybe down at the thousand-foot level, certain
4 portions of it, and the rest of it is coming in at
5 other levels between that and, say, like 300 feet.
6 But what's going to happen is this:
7 Let's say that they got the 70,000 tons of -- of
8 nuclear waste up there at Yucca Mountain. Let's say
9 that some of the tanks burst and they pollute the
10 water going down into this underground stream
11 they -- a lot of the engineers call it a stream of

12 water that runs underground that travels from up in
13 the northern part of the State, from Walker Lake,
14 clear on down to the Las Vegas Valley.

15 Okay. If that happens, that will
16 probably happen within 100 years after the Yucca
17 Mountain is loaded down, let's say, with all of
18 the -- the waste of all of the people of -- of all
19 these atomic plants that they have all over the
20 United States. Okay. That's probably better than
21 9,000 years prior to what -- when they say that
22 the -- the Yucca Mountain will last. They say it
23 will last 10,000 years. No one knows. No one can
24 guarantee it, and already when they're starting to
25 ship some fairly low-waste materials from other

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1 parts of the country, well they had -- up at
2 Wendover here a couple of months ago, they had a
3 truck that had a cask or one of the tanks burst and
4 they had to stop the truck and -- and take care of
5 that.

6 Now, see, a lot of those things don't get
7 out in the newspaper. They don't want to talk about
8 it because once they start talking about it, then

9 people start talking about that and then they say,
10 "Well, hey, what about this? What about that?" And
11 then immediately it puts -- put the kibosh on the
12 Yucca Mountain thing, which they've spent billions
13 on right now, and they're lining the inside with
14 concrete and they've got a rail -- railroad track
15 thing going in -- into the property. I don't -- I
16 haven't been up there so I don't know, but I just
17 see what I see in the newspaper and pictures of what
18 they've done and how they get the dirt and the rocks
19 and stuff out of the 2-mile or 3-mile tunnel that
20 they've already drilled through there.

21 So but when I was going to the University
22 of California in Berkeley in 19 -- in the 1930s,
23 late '30s, to 1940, early -- well till 1940 or '41
24 actually, I studied geology, and geology in those
25 days is a far cry from geology these days. I also

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1 studied mechanical engineering, civil engineering
2 and then got into electrical engineering.
3 Electrical was just now starting at that point in
4 time to start gaining some recognition because they
5 have gotten -- they had done a lot of the basic

6 stuff on that to where they can start building
7 electrical plants and so on, so forth, with an
8 understanding of what electrical engineering was all
9 about.

10 Okay. I have a daughter that in the last
11 15 years has gotten a mechanical engineering degree
12 and a master's -- master -- master's degree in
13 mechanical engineering from the University of
14 Nevada, Reno. I asked her about some questions
15 about mechanical engineering because when I took
16 mechanical engineering, I studied everything. I
17 studied gasoline engines, steam engines and diesels.
18 Diesels were just starting to get into being at that
19 point in time, but they didn't -- they didn't spare
20 me of any of the types of engines that were
21 mechanical. In other words, they taught me
22 everything they knew about each of these particular
23 things, but today if you take mechanical engineering
24 and if they -- if you are studying certain types of
25 mechanical engineering, like mechanical, strictly,

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1 let's say, air conditioning and that sort of thing,
2 which is what my daughter is doing right now for

3 Quality Mechanical -- Quality Mechanical Engineering
4 Company, she doesn't know a doggone thing about a
5 steam engine, really doesn't care because that's not
6 in her field. And so she tells me, "Don't ask me
7 about those things because I don't know. The only
8 thing I know is you talk to me about air
9 conditioning, air -- heating and mechanical things
10 about that building. I can tell you about them, but
11 anything else, forget it. Don't ask me because I
12 don't know." She hasn't studied it.

13 Well, just getting back to my original
14 thought of the water situation, when I studied
15 geology, they -- they taught me all of the things
16 that they knew about geology then, which was the
17 earthquakes, the -- the affect of air on the soil
18 and the water situation. The earthquakes crack the
19 soil. There's uplifts and down -- downlifts and so
20 on and so forth, and -- and all of these things here
21 create fractures and -- and cracks in the soil
22 surface within the first 1,000 feet or so, and then
23 in that first 1,000 feet is where everybody's
24 drilling.

25 So if you're drilling in the first 1,000

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1 feet and water is coming down through those cracks
2 from Yucca Mountain to Las Vegas, into the Las Vegas
3 Valley, 100 years after they start loading that
4 Yucca Mountain down, they'll -- the water will be
5 down here and people will still be utilizing some of
6 the wells here because the Las Vegas Valley Water
7 District is now taking and pumping Lake Mead water
8 into those wells that aren't being pumped during the
9 winter months and then filling them up with Lake
10 Mead water, but Lake Mead water isn't that clear
11 either. Right now they've got algae in there or did
12 have during the summer months, algae, because the --
13 the temperature of the water had risen. The
14 temperature of the -- the height of the water from
15 when it -- from the original height, it has dropped
16 down 35 feet, and so everything that has happened in
17 there is not to better anything, but it's beginning
18 to make everything worse than it was because we're
19 closer to the -- the sewer water that -- the
20 effluent water that's going into the Las Vegas Wash
21 area.
22 The fish down there are now -- my

23 understanding is -- and I haven't gone down there to
24 fish or anything, but they -- the fish are deformed,
25 and there's things happening on the -- the water

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1 that we're actually getting today and utilizing
2 here, and everybody says, "Well it's pure water."
3 How pure is it? How clean is it? And it's coming
4 from Lake Mead and it's 115 miles of lakes, but then
5 our water is concerned within 6 miles of each other.
6 It's being dumped in one place and 6 miles over it's
7 being sucked up into this thing and then up into the
8 mountains there in Boulder City and then gravity fed
9 down here into the -- into the valley.

10 Fortunately we only have 300,000
11 acre-feet of water that's been granted. The State
12 of California and the State of Arizona -- Arizona at
13 the time of the allocation way back there 60, 70, 80
14 years ago, they said, "Okay, we'll take whatever,"
15 and so they took -- took their thing, but they were
16 gracious enough to grant us 300,000 acre-feet of
17 millions and millions of acre-feet of water.

18 So we have a limited amount of water,
19 let's say, outside of what they can buy and then

20 trade and do whatever they can do with the State of
21 California and the State of Arizona, which they have
22 done apparently to a certain extent, to where they
23 can -- they can go beyond the 300,000 acre-feet of
24 water that they're getting today. They may get --
25 be getting 400,000 acre-feet of water because of the

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1 prior arrangements that they had made with these
2 other states, but regardless of what -- what
3 happens, they are still -- we're still limited in
4 our amount of water that we can pull from the lake.
5 We're not going to be able to pull 2 -- 2,000,000 --
6 I mean, 200,000 acre-feet -- I mean, you know,
7 300,000 acre-feet of water is what we've got. We
8 can't pull a million acre-feet of water, and so
9 because we can't, we're limited to the amount of
10 water that we can pull from the lake.
11 Okay. The rest of it, where do we get it
12 from? Underground water resources. And so the town
13 is dependent upon underground water resources, and
14 anything that will pollute that in any way to where
15 the lives of the people that drink that water will
16 be affected is going to be adverse to our community.

17 In other words, we can have 1,000,000 people,
18 2,000,000 people now and 100 years from now there
19 may be only 10,000 people here because we can't
20 support the population with the polluted water that
21 we're pulling out of the -- out of the underground
22 resources.

23 And the underground resource is being
24 refurbished by Lake Mead water, which is also
25 polluted. In other words, what we're doing is we're

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1 taking dirty water and cleaning it up a little bit
2 and then dumping it into wherever we need to go with
3 it as long as it doesn't kill people, as long as
4 people don't get hurt and land in the hospital and
5 stay the rest of their lives there because of
6 polluted water.

7 And I don't think that -- I don't think
8 there's been a person that has come to the -- gone
9 to those meetings of the Yucca Mountain meetings and
10 expressed to the fullest extent of where our water
11 comes from for the city of Las Vegas today and how
12 Yucca Mountain is going to affect our water here.
13 No one can tell me that there isn't a stream or

14 there is a stream underground that comes from Yucca
15 Mountain down through Amargosa and then on over to
16 Indian Springs, down Indian Springs and then down on
17 the north end of town and then come -- comes on
18 in -- into this valley because at one time -- well
19 Tule Springs is still a spring. Apparently there's
20 a certain amount of water that's going into Tule
21 Springs that comes from underground flows, but that
22 is the point of a -- of an alluvial fan where the
23 water has been accumulated over the centuries up in
24 the higher elevations of these gravel streams
25 that -- that were formed and then covered over with

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1 sand and silt and whatever else and then filled with
2 water and then all of a sudden a spring broke out
3 and then it formed Tule Springs, for instance.
4 Now if those dried up, then where --
5 where would Tule be? There won't be any Tule
6 Springs because no one's going to go out there and
7 start pumping water to the amount of water that Tule
8 Springs needs to keep it green and keep it full of
9 water and -- and to take care of the fish and
10 things, the animals, the birds and the animals that

11 feed and utilize Tule Springs.
12 I don't know what the desert -- what is
13 that, desert -- that amount of water that -- Corn
14 Creek. Corn Creek. Corn Creek has been a flow of
15 water ever since I can remember. They had lots and
16 lots of water there. It used to be running from
17 there on down into the -- the dry wash areas and
18 then probably started, you know, Tule Springs, and
19 the original -- that is I'm going back maybe 200
20 years from now backwards. And then as the town
21 grew, as the town started to pull all of the water
22 out from the underground sources, which was the
23 first source of water for the city of Las Vegas, and
24 now, you know, even Big Springs, everything that
25 created, let's say, the -- the town, the city of Las

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1 Vegas, Clark County basically and the Las Vegas
2 Valley, has dried up. There isn't Big Springs
3 anymore. There's a great big old hole up there, and
4 I remember when -- when I was a kid that the -- the
5 kids from town, in town, had no swimming pool. No
6 one had swimming pools. No one had even reservoirs
7 where they could go swimming, so where did they go

8 swimming? Up there at Big Springs, and that's where
9 the city was getting its water. And the town really
10 had a tantrum fit when they found out that 15 or 20
11 of the young kids went up there skinny-dipping all
12 during the summer months. Well, they don't -- they
13 can't do that anymore. It's been dried up 50, 60
14 years.

15 But anyhow, these are the things that --
16 that no one really knows about Las Vegas. They
17 don't know that the area had I don't know how many
18 artesian wells when I was a kid. Just practically
19 everybody that drilled a well got an artesian flow
20 of some sort, 10 gallons a minute, 50 gallons a
21 minute, 100 gallons a minute, maybe up as much as
22 200 gallons a minute, but all of the wells flowed
23 and so they didn't have to pump. What they could do
24 is if they needed 20 acres or they could irrigate 20
25 acres, they irrigated the 20 acres with the flow of

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1 water coming from the well. They might have taken
2 it and put it into a reservoir so they could gush
3 the stream down there, you know, and then let the
4 reservoir fill for 24, 48 hours.

5 But anyhow, they didn't have to pump any
6 water. Today if they wanted to do anything like
7 that, they would have to get out there and pump, and
8 the pump depth is anywheres from 100 foot maybe on
9 down to 3, 400 foot deep. And then when you get
10 down that deep, you'll find that instead of having
11 the reservoir of water that they're tapping, they're
12 tapping these little underground cracks in the -- in
13 the surface of the -- of the -- of the ground, say
14 like a depth -- to a depth of maybe 1,000 feet, and
15 that's -- whatever that is producing in the way of
16 water is the only amount of water that they can get
17 because they'll soon run out of water and then it's
18 past the pump -- the bowl of the pump and then they
19 have to wait until it fills back up again and then
20 they can pump again.

21 Gilcrease is one example of that. They
22 had -- they had at one time better than 900 acres.
23 They had almost 1,000 acres of land. They farmed
24 over 400 acres, and so they -- what they did was
25 once people started buying out there, they started

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1 selling. It's a good thing they did because they

2 don't have any water. They had a well there. It
3 was actually a spring that was flowing that
4 irrigated the 400 acres. Today they're doing real ,
5 good irrigating 70 or 80 acres of orchard and all
6 that water's pumped.

7 So this is -- these are the things that
8 I'm looking at, and of course I'm getting so doggone
9 old that, you know, I'm not going to be living
10 that -- that much longer, 15, 20 years maybe.

11 MR. COMPTON: Hope so, uh-huh.

12 MR. TOMIYASU: So that, you know, by the
13 time I get to be 100 years old, if I'm lucky, well
14 then, you know, that's -- that's it. But anyhow,
15 the -- the things that people are looking at today,
16 they're -- the only thing they're looking at is the
17 damage that might be done if a cask breaks in its
18 transport to Yucca Mountain. Whether we're here in
19 Las Vegas or between here and Salt Lake City or
20 Denver or going the other way, Wendover and then
21 over into Salt Lake City or whatever, that's -- you
22 know, that's what it is. And they're not really --
23 they're not really concerned about the water that
24 they drink and the foods that they might be

25 producing here, even little private gardens.

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1 Years ago my dad was about the only one
2 that had farmed any acreage. He farmed 120 acres
3 because he had water, and once the water petered
4 out, well then, you know, there was no farm. Those
5 people are -- that have bought all of that property
6 now have drilled wells, and the State has given them
7 just a certain percentage of water that they had
8 really allocated when my dad sold a lot of that
9 property to them. In other words, he gave, let's
10 say, like a 16th interest in well 2303, which was
11 the permit number. Well they probably instead of
12 getting a 16th interest now have probably got 1/64th
13 of an interest because that's the only thing they
14 need. That's the only amount of water that they
15 need to irrigate what they've got.

16 So they -- the State now has pulled all
17 of that back and away from these people. They think
18 they've got a -- you know, a chunk of water rights
19 that they can, you know, enlarge if they want to,
20 buy some additional property around them and so on
21 and so forth, but they -- they're not able to

22 because they don't have the water. They can
23 probably apply and get temporary water that is a
24 revokable water rights to a certain amount of water,
25 but they have to prove that they need it.

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1 In the old days when the artesian water
2 well was flowing, a lot of times during the winter
3 months when my dad didn't need all the water, he
4 dumped it into Duck Creek. It went down and went
5 into Lake Mead, well the Colorado River at that
6 point in time, but, you know, when he needed it,
7 well he just pulled it right on back and started
8 irrigating with it and utilized it all during the
9 summer months, but then when -- when it petered out,
10 well then, you know, of course he was out of farming
11 then so he didn't really need it.

12 But today that's -- that's the situation.
13 Everybody's looking at, "Where am I going to get my
14 water? Is the Water District going to be coming by
15 me? If it is, what are they going to charge me for
16 the water?" Well it's far cheaper than if you
17 can -- if you own the water rights to get it from
18 the State and then go ahead and utilize it than to

19 wait for a big pipeline coming by there, a 4-foot
20 pipeline that they have to tap and then come on into
21 your property with a 2-inch line or a 3-inch line or
22 whatever, and then you get charged for every drop
23 that you use. The other way, well, they -- you
24 can -- you've got a permit to draw a certain amount
25 of water, and if you waste it, fine, but use it.

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1 In other words, they don't -- they won't
2 say, "Well I've got a 64th. I'm only going to use a
3 128th interest in that well or that permit; in other
4 words, only half of what I've been allocated." Well
5 before too long the water meter says, "No, you're
6 only going to be enjoying the 128th because yours is
7 a revokable right now."

8 See, so my concern is how's the -- how's
9 the city going to live, how's the county going to
10 live with polluted water? They're not going to.
11 All of these millions and millions of dollars that
12 they've spent in these big hotels and that, just
13 forget about it. We don't care if you've got 5,000
14 rooms.

15 MR. COMPTON: Yes, sir. I'd like to make

16 a quick comment.

17 (Discussion off the record.)

18 MR. TOMIYASU: What I wanted to address

19 is the Ash Meadows flow.

20 MR. COMPTON: Ash Meadows?

21 MR. TOMIYASU: Ash Meadows. That's in

22 the Pahrump Valley and it's the northern end of

23 Pahrump, and that's where they have the -- that's

24 been a spring or a water flow and they have these

25 little pupfish in there that they are trying to

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1 save. Now that water, basically a lot of that water

2 comes from the mountain range to the east. Now

3 Pahrump now has -- they have pumped -- they have

4 lost all of their springs. Manse had a big spring

5 there that flowed 900, 1,000 gallons a minute for

6 years and years and years. That has dried up

7 completely. They've drilled wells alongside of it

8 and they're pumping water today to irrigate the

9 farms that they opened up when they had free-flowing

10 water.

11 And Ash Meadows, if they don't watch

12 themselves on drilled water over there in Pahrump,

13 before too long, Ash Meadows will dry up, and when
14 it does and they have people that spent millions of
15 dollars in buying the land, developing the land and
16 so on and so forth, what's going to happen? And
17 then, you know, there's going to be a lot of
18 comments and criticisms at that point in time of
19 what -- what are we doing about our water system.
20 They may not -- they may not be -- may not be coming
21 out and addressing anything specifically today or
22 the next, say, like two, three years, five years,
23 but when it does and Ash Meadows, say, like dries up
24 in the next five or ten years or gets down to the
25 point where the little pupfish and so on and so

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1 forth cannot thrive anymore because they don't have
2 the water coming up high enough, it stays down
3 below, the water is still there, but it's too cold
4 of water and the pupfish can't live in it, then at
5 that point in time they'll say, "What we got to do
6 is no more drilling in Pahrump."
7 A lot of people think that they -- just
8 because they've got the land there, that they're
9 going to be able to drill. They're going to be able

10 to drill, but they're going to be pulling water from
11 1,000 feet, maybe 1,500 feet below, because the
12 water in the Pahrump area is limited as far as
13 amount is concerned compared to the Las Vegas
14 Valley. The Las Vegas Valley is being fed from
15 Yucca Mountain and up through there and then coming
16 on down here.

17 So these are the things that -- that the
18 people in the -- in the Federal Government that are
19 planning on putting all of the Yucca Mountain, you
20 know, waste materials haven't really considered.
21 Their only -- their only thing they've thought is,
22 well, there's a big hunk of desert out there and you
23 drill a 2-mile tunnel or a 3-mile tunnel and dump
24 the 70,000 tons of stuff in there. It will be good
25 for 10,000 years.

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1 They're making wild statements without
2 really thinking about what the immediate future
3 holds, and I think that the thing that -- the thing
4 that they have to consider is what we are -- what
5 are -- what's going to happen day after tomorrow
6 when things -- seems like these things dry up or

7 they start polluting our water here in Las Vegas
8 Valley? What are we going to tell the people in the
9 Las Vegas Valley, that we didn't think about it?
10 Somebody's going to get their heads knocked together
11 back in Washington, D.C., and they better think
12 about it today before something is done to Yucca
13 Mountain to where they've got 70,000 tons of stuff
14 in -- in there and then no place to put it.
15 So I don't think that they need -- they
16 need to con -- consider Yucca Mountain as the final
17 resting place for 70,000 tons of waste materials
18 throughout the United States. They better figure
19 another way of doing it, and I think -- my thinking
20 is with my limited amount of experience in the
21 practical field of, say, like the development of
22 materials from the Yucca Mountain waste; that is,
23 the atomic wastes that are being accumulated here in
24 the United States, that what we should be doing is
25 taking the kind of money that we're spending at

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1 Yucca Mountain and going into the laboratories and
2 then trying to find, figure a way of reducing
3 that -- the toxicity of the materials that are being

4 considered being dumped at Yucca Mountain.

5 In other words, we're looking at the
6 wrong thing. We're -- what we're doing is we're
7 creating -- creating a bad object and then well we
8 don't like the looks of it, go take it out here and
9 dump it in the desert. That isn't the answer
10 because every day there's more people being born
11 into this earth and these people are going to have
12 to live here, and if they don't provide them with a
13 safe place to live and work and do the things that
14 they are trained to do, then you're basically
15 killing civilization.

16 And one of the things that the engineers
17 and the scientists have developed, the atomic power.
18 They took materials like plutonium and uranium and
19 things like that and then converted it to where they
20 could produce all of this potent stuff to where they
21 can boil water with it and then create the steam and
22 then go ahead and generate power. Well why can't
23 they work the thing around now? They've utilized a
24 certain amount of that energy out of the -- the
25 materials that they created and then take it a step

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1 farther and then detoxify it to where it can be
2 spread over the ground and vegetables planted on it.
3 I don't know why -- why they can't think
4 of that sort of thing. It's too -- it's a very
5 complicated way of trying to -- to solve a problem,
6 yes, but it's probably the most simplest of problems
7 to be solved instead of trying to take -- use
8 billions and billions of dollars and drill a hole in
9 the -- in a mountain and then just burying it.

10 MR. COMPTON: Good point.

11 MR. TOMIYASU: And I don't know why
12 they -- I called Senator Bryan's office. I called
13 Harry Reid's office, and I called -- I don't know
14 whether I called Shelley Berkley or not, but anyhow,
15 I called our senators and congressmen and people
16 like that here, oh, a couple of years ago and I told
17 them that -- you know, the office people what I was
18 thinking. I don't know how much went -- got to
19 their ears or how much they understood what I was
20 trying to say because a lot of times when -- when
21 you tell somebody and they in turn tell -- try to
22 tell somebody else, they lose the fact of what I was

23 trying to say in trying to convey it to the other

24 people.

25 And so the force of the -- of what I had

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1 to say has been lost, and I think that that's what's

2 happened with the -- the senators' offices and so on

3 and so forth, because I never got any -- any

4 comments or criticisms or anything from them. No

5 one ever -- has ever asked me, "Why don't you come

6 up to this particular meeting and we'll introduce

7 you as -- as a person that has lived there in the

8 Las Vegas Valley all of these years and how you can

9 outline the way the wells have been drilled from

10 several hundred to several thousand and then, you

11 know, what it is today and where the water is coming

12 from that the people are drinking today and how it's

13 being polluted." And we may have some more

14 pollution coming from Yucca Mountain once something

15 up there starts to happen, the tanks break or so on

16 and so forth.

17 But anyhow, what I wanted to do is I

18 would like to get this to be heard as a -- as a

19 problem that we have for the Las Vegas Valley.

20 True, it's 200 miles away, but 200 miles is no
21 distance at all when it comes through the time that
22 it might take. It might take 50 years for the stuff
23 to drop into the underground water resources and
24 then come down here and pollute the water here in
25 Las Vegas to where people can't live, drink it,

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1 can't use it.
2 And so, you know, I don't know, but I'd
3 like to have somebody delve into it to find out --
4 they can drill all the wells they want up there.
5 They can drill 500 of them up there, and a lot of
6 times, you know, when they are -- when a driller is
7 told to drill right here, he doesn't know why
8 they're wanting to drill right there. He's going to
9 be paid to drill a well right here. Now that may be
10 on the outer edges of things so it doesn't really
11 show up on the main flow, and so what is happening
12 is that it's -- it's being a controlled experiment
13 instead of something that has gone the scope of --
14 of where it affects every -- everything that -- in
15 that area.
16 In other words, if it may -- the water --

17 the water resources coming down through there may be
18 10 miles wide and let's say they don't get right
19 into the center of it but they go way out to the
20 outside, and then say 10 miles and 12 miles out,
21 they don't -- they don't get much response in there.
22 The water isn't there, number one. Number two, what
23 water they found in there wasn't polluted or
24 couldn't be polluted because it's too far away.
25 In other words, I've done enough lab work.

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1 when I was going to college to know that -- you
2 know, that when -- when you -- when a -- the
3 professor says, "I want you to find out what I've
4 got in this particular chemical here in this glass."
5 I had a professor that was a professor of chemistry,
6 and what he did one day was he -- I asked him for a
7 sample, and he says, "Okay. I'll give you a
8 sample." He gave me a little beaker of water that
9 was fairly clear and he said, "Find out what's in
10 there."
11 I went through all of the tests and I
12 found nothing except there was a inkling that it
13 could be cadmium, only one thing, one element, and

14 so when I went to him and said, "I didn't find
15 anything," "Oh, no," he says, "you should have found
16 one. One. Go back on your notes and see where it
17 might -- what it possibly might be."

18 And so I went back and I reviewed my
19 notes and I could see that it could have been
20 cadmium, and that's a real hard test. So I went
21 back to him. He says, "How did you determine that?"
22 And I said, "Well that's the only one of all of the
23 tests that showed any discoloration." He says, "You
24 got it right."

25 The first time around I couldn't find it

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1 in a sense because I really wasn't looking for
2 cadmium. I was looking for other things like silver
3 and -- and, you know, some of the other things in --
4 on those particular scales that -- that we were
5 testing for, but this was like the fourth or fifth
6 tests that I had to run, and each time that you run
7 from your more obvious tests on down to the -- the
8 tests at the lower range of things, they're harder
9 to find. I didn't find any, of the upper three or
10 four in the -- the more obvious ranges, but it was

11 down in the fourth or fifth one way down.
12 So this is -- this is what I'm getting
13 at, is that if the tests aren't made in the proper
14 places, you could get results that says, "No,
15 there's nothing there or there's very little effect
16 of what we have -- we have found that will affect
17 the water at where they have run across, you know,
18 and run their -- run their tests." So it has to be
19 somebody that they -- they can't say, "Well, hey,
20 why don't you try this or why don't you try that."
21 Just tell him, "Test it, and give us a rundown on
22 what you find of all of the things that might be
23 detrimental to drinking water," and let him have his
24 free hand, but make sure that they've got a good
25 scientist there to do the work, one that is exact,

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1 because there are guys today that, "Oh, well, I'm
2 getting paid for it," just, you know, get some kind
3 of a report out and then they'll be satisfied with
4 it. They may be and they may not be.
5 But that's what I'd like to see, is I'd
6 like to see some very explicit things looked into,
7 and then once they see something there that possibly

8 might be damaging to the water system here in the
9 Las Vegas Valley, try to figure out where it's
10 coming from and then in what amounts. And once they
11 find that, then they'll say, "Well, hey, Yucca
12 Mountain, we just can't use it anymore because in
13 100 years it's going to start polluting the water
14 here." And once it's polluted, then you can forget
15 about Las Vegas. You can forget about Las Vegas
16 because no one is -- no one's going to live here
17 with all of this polluted atomic wastewater that's
18 coming down in here and polluting our wells and
19 the -- where they're pulling the water out of the
20 underground resources.

21 MR. COMPTON: Good point.

22 MR. TOMIYASU: That's all I want to say.