

OCT 12 2001

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CHANDLER LAUGHLIN: My name is Chandler Laughlin,

7 C-h-a-n-d-l-e-r L-a-u-g-h-l-i-n. I'm a resident of Silver
8 City. I'm 64 years old. And realizing that the decisions on
9 this will be made by bureaucrats and politicians inside the
10 belt way, and that most of the decisions are fore-ordained, I
11 would still like to take the opportunity to point out that
12 centralization of any waste product, whether it's sewage or
13 nuclear waste, raises the potential for disastrous results as
14 opposed to irritating results, failure of the septic tank
15 versus failure of the downtown sewer tank. We are dealing
16 with a technology that has never been dealt with, except for
17 the bombs during the atomic age.

18 There is no nuclear energy generated. There is
19 simply a side effect of nuclear reactions, heat, that is then
20 used to boil water and turn turbines, much the same as the
21 19th century steam engines.

22 The whole process, including the political
23 process, to utilize Nevada because of its thinly-spread
24 population has been flawed from the get-go. The principle of
25 isolating it from local citizenry is eroding even as this

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1 process goes forward, and the suburbs of Las Vegas are within

2 30 miles of the site.

3 We will not see the development of any area, even
4 including the nuclear test site, that will make an acceptable
5 safety margin for a population that is increasing in the
6 region. In addition, the process of containment and shipping
7 of -- handling of nuclear waste is flawed, and it should be
8 reexamined.

9 Gasification is at least a minimum requirement
10 for safe transportation and/or storage, and the gasification
11 should be accomplished at the sites where the material is
12 generated and stored before any attempt to ship it anywhere is
13 made. Once you have it gasified, you might just as well leave
14 it where the hell it is.

15 And that's about enough. And I'm from Silver
16 City, Lyon County. The board voted at least eight times over
17 the last 15 years to oppose the nuclear dumping site in Yucca
18 Mountain.