

Christine Bachlar

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Virginia City, Nevada Public Hearing

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OCT 3 - 2001

MS. BACHLAR: My name is Christine Bachlar,

11 B-A-C-H-L-A-R. I'm from the Comstock Chronicle Newspaper,

12 which is the newspaper of record in Storey County.

13 As everyone can see, there are only six people

14 here. Three are members of the press, and three of them

15 are citizens who somehow found out about this meeting. I

16 would like to put on the record that I think it's

17 outrageous that no notification was received by any of the

18 newspapers until this weekend. And for weeklies, which is

19 what most rural counties have, they simply have not been

20 able to get the word out to anyone in town. And I think

21 that really needs to be put on the record. I know that

22 Kenny Guinn, the governor's office, didn't receive any

23 notification of these hearings at all until 4:00 a.m. this

24 Saturday morning, the 29th, which I think is also

25 completely unethical of the DOE to hold public comment

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1 hearings and not give any opportunity for people to know

2 about the meeting at all. I know there will be another

3 meeting on the 12th, and we will -- I don't know if all of

4 you will be here or not, but we will certainly put out

5 information about this.

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6 As you know, I think it's almost 80 percent,
7 maybe more than 80 percent, of the people from Nevada
8 strongly oppose Yucca Mountain for all the reasons given.
9 One of the concerns I have right now is you have
10 preliminary reports out, and there are no copies of those
11 preliminary reports available in public libraries or at
12 the courthouse in Storey County for people to avail
13 themselves of. I mentioned that to the gentleman at the
14 door, and he said they're on line. In poor, rural
15 communities, people don't have computers, and even if they
16 do, they can't possibly download and print a 500-page
17 report. I think it's incumbent upon the DOE to make that
18 readily available to the people of Nevada who are so
19 concerned and made their concerns so evident. That's the
20 statement. Now I have a question for you.