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In the event I cannot be present, please accept this letter as my input in lieu of attending the public comments meeting in Caliente on 5/5/2004

I am VERY pleased with the decision to build a rail corridor to the Yucca Mountain facility. This is the only logical method to transport the material safely and efficiently. I trust there is no further consideration of the cumbersome and risky "intermodal" method of transportation. Do it right from the onset, and put the public's mind at ease.

I would recommend the name "Caliente Corridor" be dropped in favor of "Nevada Corridor." In fact, the proposed rail spur line will NOT transport radioactive waste through Caliente. To me, this hints the city of Caliente is deserving of favoritism in regard to impact alleviation assistance. Additionally, residents of Caliente do not wish the connotation of nuclear waste passing through their community. This can have a negative implication in regard to the quality of life and property values in Caliente, and Lincoln County.

ALL of Lincoln County will be impacted by rail construction and operation. We will undoubtedly suffer from a "boom/bust" cycle during the construction phase. We look to the federal government to provide assistance. Speaking in regard to my employer, the Lincoln County School District, we will be required to add facilities and personnel, then drastically trim during the downward transition from construction to operation. Not a preferential method to run a school district.

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