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My name is Don Kimball and I am a resident of Las Vegas, NV. I am here today as a representative of the Sierra Club, Southern Nevada Group. The club would like to voice their opposition to the proposed railroad corridor that would bring radioactive waste to Yucca Mountain. As DOE has done with the Yucca Mountain project itself, the agency has ignored the objections of the citizens of Nevada to this ill-conceived and dangerous project. It has instead proceeded to ram this multi-billion dollar boon dogle down the throat of the state of Nevada.

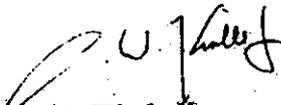
While the DOE has tried to fast track this rail corridor, they have, as with the Yucca Mountain project itself, ignored proper procedures and good science in the name of getting the project completed ASAP. In this instance, DOE has, among other things, ignored NEPA requirements for this proposal.

DOE also needs to examine the dangers of moving 77,000 tons of radioactive waste not just on this proposed route, but throughout the country as well. Accident estimates range from anywhere between 90-590 according to Citizen Alert of Nevada. The railroad could be subject to a terrorist attack, and first responders would be hours away from preventing the spread of radioactive contamination.

We have very little confidence that the same agency who recently announced that they can not find missing spent fuel rods from Vermont Yankee can guarantee our safety with this massive project. Even if the movement and storage of the radioactive waste could be accomplished safely, the nuclear industry will only continue to produce more. Where will IT go?

Perhaps we should consider the position the German government has recently taken and begin to see nuclear power plants for what they really are: extremely expensive dangerous dinosaurs whose time has come to be shut down before another Chernobyl rears its ugly head and destroys more life's, contaminates more land and devastates another economy.

DOE needs to prove with action and not words that they are not a rogue agency accountable to only corporate interests. Listen to the people of Nevada when we say we enough! We don't want this rail corridor or your poison at Yucca Mountain. I am submitting a written copy for the record. Thank you.


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