

January 9, 2008

Jane R. Summerson  
 M. Lee Bishop  
 Environmental Impact Statement Office  
 U.S. Department of Energy  
 Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management  
 1551 Hillshire Drive  
 Las Vegas, NV 89134

Re: Comments on draft Repository Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and draft Nevada Rail Corridor/Alignment Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Ms. Summerson and Mr. Bishop,

I'm writing to express my concern with the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) draft Repository Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) and draft Nevada Rail Corridor/ Alignment Environmental Impact Statement. I have identified several issues regarding both documents that should be addressed by the DOE in the course of developing both Final Environmental Impact Statements (EIS).

1 [ Using the Yucca Mountain site to 'dispose' of nuclear waste is a very risky and therefore an unexceptable choice as a nuclear waste repository. Yucca Mountain is extremely unstable due to Geological fault lines that run through and near the Yucca Mountain area, this point alone makes a strong case that Yucca Mountain should not be used as a site for nuclear storage, but there are many other reasons as well. The unpredictable weather and geological changes that are expected in the Yucca Mountain area must also be taken into considerdation in the Final Environmental Impact Statements. ]

2 [ Yucca Mountain has been and continues to be a sacred and beloved site for thousands of years to the local Native American tribes. The Timbisha tribe and other Western Shoshone tribes have conducted spring renewal ceremonies on Yucca Mountain for an unknown time, and continue to do so into the present on the western portion they are still able to access. The SEIS fails to mention the ongoing dispute and litigation involving the United States' violation of the 1863 Treaty of Ruby Valley with the Western Shoshone which clearly defines territorial borders for their nation of Newe Sogobia as well outside the proposed land withdrawal. This treaty was fully ratified by Congress, and is legally "the supreme law of the land". In April of 2004, the United Nation's Committee to End Racial Discrimination upheld the Shoshone claim in a record decision, and their declaration clearly identifies the Yucca Mountain Repository as one of several ongoing serious human rights violations by the United States against the Western Shoshone Nation. ]

cont [ I am writing, and sending humble prayers, on behalf of my friends and family who have not been able to send in their comments, but will none the less be impacted by such a decision. Yucca Mountain should not be used as an experimental ground for dumping nuclear waste. And the citizens of the United States should not be used as an experiment to see what will happen when a train carrying nuclear waste deraills in their town. Too many of my relatives have already been hurt at the expense of nuclear experiments. My grandmother is Hibakusha (atomic bomb survivor) from Nagasaki. When I think of the pain and the loss that she and so many others endured I am reminded that someone in the United States Government approved the development and detonation of that second bomb, that last bomb. But, would they again? If they knew what suffering it would cause, would they seek a different option? I hope that if they had more information about the serious risks, and injury that they would make a more responsible, and sane decision.

I urge you to please review and give honest thought to the serious risks associated with the 'disposal' and transportation of nuclear waste. Nuclear waste is one of the most deadly waste materials on earth, given that there are many safe renewable energy options currently available to

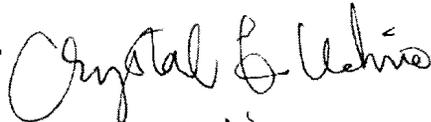
us, the government should push for a halt on all production which results in nuclear waste. However, while nuclear waste remains, it should be stored on-site, in retrievable casks, and not transported across the country to be stored in an insecure location.

If the current plan to dump nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain is allowed to go through it will pose a serious threat to national security. I have been doing research and I was horrified to look at the frequency of train derailments and serious trucking accidents. If one of these were to happen in a major city carrying nuclear waste, it would have the capacity to result in horrors matching or exceeding those resulting from the atomic explosions in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. And like the horrors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, they will have been preventable. I want to know that I am not risking catastrophic atomic exposure by living in a town with a railroad or an interstate.

There is an extremely high likelihood that there will be many adverse impacts to the drinking water supply, impacts from truck transport of nuclear waste, socio-economic impacts, impacts to cultural resources, environmental justice issues, preventable suffering and death.

Overall, the research on this site clearly shows that storing nuclear waste in this area is not safe or ethical and I do not wish to see this project carried out. For these and other reasons, Yucca Mountain is unacceptable as a nuclear waste repository. ]

Sincerely,



Crystal Uchino  
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86001