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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2801

August 30, 2000

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Mr. Richard A. Meserve
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852-2738

Dear Chairman Meserve,

I am writing to express my concern over the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) licensing procedure for the proposed Yucca Mountain repository.

As you are aware, the NRC stated they were considering an informal hearing for the licensing of the proposed Yucca Mountain repository at the licensing meeting on May 5, 2000 in Las Vegas. I strongly object to the informal hearing procedure, and urge you to consider a formal adjudicatory process in order to ensure that the safety and health of the citizens of southern Nevada are not jeopardized.

A formal hearing procedure would grant the NRC the opportunity to conduct the *most* comprehensive analysis on the suitability of Yucca Mountain as a high-level nuclear waste repository. It is imperative that the most stringent process be used, that there is time for a cross-examination and that a legal record of proceedings is documented.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



SHELLEY BERKLEY
Member of Congress

REC'D BY SB:kh

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