U.S.N.R.C.

Sept. 18, 2001

Darlene Higgs licensing assistant

Dear Ms. Higgs,

I am a resident of clark county, in the Las vegas valley. Our population is 1,500,000 and we have a tourist population of 90,000 per day. In 1987 we had barely one sixth of today's population. This alone is reason enough to reject yucca mountain as a nuclear repository.

My first comment is on the ECRB test in which a bulkhead would be moved for accuracy. Will the Ground Fault Interruptors be re-installed, also? In response to a test failure they were removed.

The planning for this meeting was flawed because not all participants in the remote locations had complete information available.

Since the terrorist attack of Sept. 11 there is a new reality, terrorist threat by aircraft is no longer theoretical. all previous correspondence and public comments, concerning terrorist attack by aircraft or any

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other means must be re-investigated, re-considered and acted upon. as far back as 1985 the Nevada nuclear waste office registered this concern, about risk by aircraft, and they were given little consideration, then.

The DOE latest proposal would place 5500 metric tons of nuclear waste, in a cooling pond on or near the top of Yucca mountain. This would be especially vulnerable to attack by aircraft which would pollute air, water and soil. The dry cask storage area would also be a vulnerable target. The Nellis AF bombing range is 2 minute flight time, from Yucca mountain, in a plane flying at 600 MPH, loaded with fuel, bombs and missiles. as demonstrated on Sept. 11 the fuel may be more deadly than the weaponry. Magnifying the terrorism threat is our training of foreign pilots, at times using their planes, from Saudia arabia, Kuwait, and Emirates and in the 1980s Iraqi pilots were trained.

there is also risk of accidents which are more likely during training exercises and the possibility of suicide, by all pilots.

Nevadans concern of accidents by truck and rail must now be treated with more consideration given the 2 train accidents in the Baltimore tunnel, involving fire, involving water, and the Wendover Utah train which burned. Locally, in the past year, we have had 2 trucks which both burned after an accident. one was gas fueled and the other diesel.

In the past all transportation risks were minimalized or ignored but they now must be factored into any transportation planning. Where is the enviromental transportation plan?

The DOE Sept. 5TH meeting did not give Nevadans sufficient time to comment. It never should have held in a federal barbed wire compound with armed guards.

to compound this poor choice of location north Las vegas police were called, on to federal property, in response to hecklers. this was an implied threat to the attendees as two policeman were stationed in the main room.

now the DOE has rescheduled the northern meetings, one in amargosa valley and in Pahrump from 2—9PM on monday Sept. 24th. why was there so little notice and why on the same day?

The Sept. 5th meeting should be rescheduled, at cashman Field as Governor Guinn requested, until all Las vegas valley residents who wish to comment do so.

I have filed a complaint with Senator Harry Reid and Senator John Ensign in regards to the conduct of 5 DOE employees in trying to suppress my first amendment right of free speech and non verbal communication, in the form of two placards reading; "Dont Dump on us."

this is a paraphrase of the 1775 revolutionary slogans; "Don't tread upon us" and "Don't tread upon me" used by John Paul Jones.

I was prevented of displayed them because of their literary content then on the pretext that the sticks were "weapons". Only after speaking to Bud Crane from the governors local office and to Governor Kenny Guinn did they cease hassling me.

as you know flag burners are protected by the first amendment and the supreme court decision classifying their despicable act as non-verbal comment protected as free speech. 5 DOE employees denied me the same rights on federal property!

Sincerely,
Frank Perna
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