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Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2010 4:21 PM
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Subject: NRC PRESS RELEASE - YUCCA MOUNTAIN BOARD TO HOLD ORAL ARGUMENTS IN VEGAS 1/26-27

Hi all and Happy New Year -

It has been a while since I've had news from NRC to pass along to you. However below my "signature" is the text of a press release that NRC will issue today at 5pm EST announcing that the Construction Authorization Board will hold proceedings in Las Vegas on January 26-27, 2010. The first day (and perhaps part of the second, if needed) will focus on issues raised by State of NV and NEI that focus on DOE's specific requirements to project environmental conditions at the proposed site thousands of years in the future and the extent of several design conditions required by NRC regulations. The second day is scheduled to be a case management meeting related to the License Support Network.

Please note that these proceedings will be Webcast. If any of you in the Vegas area plan to attend, please let me know - I'll alert the security staff so that they'll have visitor badges prepared for you in advance (cut reduce your processing time on site).

Thanks,
Amy

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**NRC'S YUCCA MOUNTAIN BOARD TO HOLD ORAL ARGUMENTS
IN LAS VEGAS JANUARY 26-27**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Construction Authorization Board will convene Jan. 26-27 in Las Vegas, Nev., to hear oral arguments on a number of legal issues and to hold a case management conference concerning documents filed in the adjudicatory proceeding over the Department of Energy's license application for a high-level radioactive waste repository at Yucca Mountain.

Oral arguments on Jan. 26 and, if necessary, Jan. 27 will concern several legal issues raised by the state of Nevada and the Nuclear Energy Institute. These issues center on DOE's specific requirements to project environmental conditions at Yucca Mountain thousands of years in the future and the extent of several design conditions required by NRC regulations.

The case management conference on Jan. 27 will address concerns raised last month by the NRC's administrator of the Licensing Support Network, an online database of documents supporting the license application, the NRC's review, and the various challenges filed in the hearing. The administrator expressed concern about the availability of DOE's thousands of documents on the network should the department decide to withdraw the license application.

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Proceedings will be held at the NRC's Las Vegas Hearing Facility, Pacific Enterprise Plaza, Building 1, 3250 Pepper Lane in Las Vegas, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Pacific Time each day. Proceedings will be Webcast at these addresses:

- January 26: <http://www.visualwebcaster.com/event.asp?id=65080>
- January 27: <http://www.visualwebcaster.com/event.asp?id=65081>

Media wishing to cover the pre-hearing sessions are strongly encouraged to register in advance with NRC's Office of Public Affairs in Rockville, Maryland, by calling (301) 415-8200. Pre-registration is essential for television media, as space inside the hearing room is limited. Photographers (video or still) will not be permitted to move around the hearing room while the board is in session. Board judges will not grant interviews. No interviews of other participants shall be permitted inside the hearing facility. Two brochures on the Las Vegas Hearing Facility – one for media and one for the general public – will be available on the NRC's Web site at this address: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/fact-sheets/>.