

Board of County Commissioners

## Lincoln County, Nevada

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## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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> COUNTY CLERK Lisa C. Lloyd

January 20, 2015

Chairman Stephen G. Burns U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Mail Stop O -16G4 Washington, DC 20555

Re: Request for Scoping of Issues to be Addressed in Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Yucca Mountain Geologic Repository

Dear Chairman Burns:

On behalf of the Board of Lincoln County Commissioners, I am writing to request that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) undertake public scoping of the issues to be addressed in the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Proposed Yucca Mountain Geologic Repository. Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.92(d), the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is vested with discretion regarding whether to undertake a scoping process to inform identification of issues to be addressed within the SEIS for the Proposed Yucca Mountain Geologic Repository. NUREG 1748 indicates that while scoping is not required for a supplemental EIS, "circumstances may indicate that scoping is appropriate (e.g., substantive new or significant information or circumstances) (NUREG 1748, p. 73).

Following issuance by the Department of the Final EIS for the Proposed Yucca Mountain Geologic Repository the following substantive new and significant information and circumstances lead Lincoln County to make this request:

- 1. NRC staff concluded that the subject FEIS was inadequate and required supplementation.
- Parties admitted to the Yucca Mountain Repository licensing proceeding filed several admitted contentions which assert various issues not having been adequately addressed within the DOE's FEIS.
- 3. Lincoln County was admitted as an Interested Governmental Participant in the Yucca Mountain licensing proceeding.
- 4. Lincoln County notified the Atomic Safety Licensing Board that it would be participating as an Interested Governmental Participant with a specific interest in several NEPA related contentions admitted to the proceedings.

Lincoln County believes that in the event NRC were to expand the scope of the proposed SEIS for the Proposed Yucca Mountain Geologic Repository to address the issues raised in various NEPA related contentions admitted for adjudication during the licensing proceeding, the duration of and cost by all participants in the Yucca Mountain licensing process might be significantly reduced. Given the extreme limitation in funding available to Lincoln County to effectively participate in the Yucca Mountain licensing proceeding, any effort by NRC to reduce both the duration and cost of said participation by all parties is critically important.

In the event that NRC is unwilling to undertake public scoping to identify issues to be addressed in the (SEIS) for the Proposed Yucca Mountain Geologic Repository, Lincoln County requests that NRC consider including those topics addressed by various admitted NEPA contentions for consideration during preparation of the subject SEIS.

Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated, Sincerely,

Jerry Hilling

Kevin J Phillips, Chair

NRC FORM 253	U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION MESSENGER/COURIER RECEIPT		DATE OF REQUEST			CONTROL NUMBER		
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