

October 6, 2015

MEMORANDUM TO: James Rubenstone, Acting Director  
Yucca Mountain Directorate  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

FROM: Christine Pineda, Project Manager /RA/  
Yucca Mountain Directorate  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 17 PUBLIC MEETING ON THE NRC  
STAFF'S DRAFT SUPPLEMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
ENERGY'S EIS FOR THE PROPOSED REPOSITORY AT YUCCA  
MOUNTAIN, NEVADA

On Thursday, September 17, 2015, members of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a Category 3 public meeting at the Amargosa Community Center in Amargosa Valley, Nevada. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an overview of the NRC staff's draft supplement to the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) environmental impact statements for the proposed high-level waste repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, and to accept public comments on the document. Participants also had an opportunity to ask clarifying questions about the NRC's environmental review process.

The public meeting began at 7:00 p.m. Pacific Time, following a one-hour open house for stakeholders to engage with the NRC staff. The meeting began with an introduction of NRC staff and a review of meeting ground rules, followed by a presentation on the draft supplement. Meeting attendees were then given the opportunity to ask clarifying questions and present their comments. Seventeen individuals provided comments. The meeting concluded at approximately 8:55 p.m.

The NRC staff's slide presentation is available in the NRC's Agencywide Document Management and Access System (ADAMS) at Accession No. ML15265A497. The transcript for the meeting is available in ADAMS at Accession No. ML15274A168. A video archive of the meeting will be available in the near future on the NRC's website at <http://video.nrc.gov>, under "Archived Videos." These materials, as well as the meeting handouts and posters, are also available on the NRC's website at <http://www.nrc.gov/waste/hlw-disposal/key-documents.html#er>.

The ADAMS public electronic reading room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS, or who encounter problems in accessing documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC's Public Document Room reference staff at 1-800-397-4737, or via e-mail at [pdr@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr@nrc.gov).

Approximately 72 people attended the meeting. Meeting attendees included members of the public, members of federal, state, and local governments, members of tribal governments, and

members of industry and public advocacy groups. A list of meeting attendees is attached to this summary.

Clarifying questions from the attendees included: requests for maps that show highways, populated areas, and other key locations in the Amargosa Valley area, as well as distances from the regulatory compliance location to Amargosa Farms and other potential surface discharge locations; a request for confirmation about the specific areas covered by the NRC staff's analysis in the supplement; and requests for clarification about the hearing process and about whether the EIS reflected potential changes in DOE's proposed design.

Topics raised during the comment period included concerns about the NRC's process and technical aspects of the supplement, and concerns about broader policies, processes, and issues related to Yucca Mountain or the proposed repository. Comments about the supplement or about the NRC's process for developing the supplement addressed the following issues: concern about the NRC's independence and its role in preparing the supplement, and concerns about the unavailability of federal funding for affected local governments to support their technical reviews of the draft supplement.

Comments were made expressing support for completing the license application review and approval process; support for vetting of the science by the affected counties before approval is granted; concerns about the assumptions and scope of the supplement; and a request that the final supplement reflect information concerning developments or decisions made since 2008 that would result in repository program changes, including the supplement's reliance on DOE's model of repository performance.

Comments were made expressing concerns about the potential for the proposed repository to leak contaminants into the groundwater moving through Nevada into California; concerns about impacts on the regional ecosystems and the ecotourism industry; the link between groundwater in the Amargosa Valley area and groundwater in the vicinity of Tecopa and Shoshone, California; concerns about impacts on disadvantaged populations and wildlife in Tecopa and Shoshone; and disagreement with findings in the draft supplement about the extent of potential contamination.

Comments were made expressing concern that contaminated groundwater from the Nevada Test Site would be erroneously attributed to the repository; and concern that little or no money allotted for emergency preparedness had been spent to improve the Amargosa Valley area emergency response infrastructure. Some commenters expressed their view that the repository would pose no danger and would not contaminate groundwater or that any potential contamination would not be significant.

General policy or process comments addressed the following topics or concerns: support for the repository's potential economic benefits to Nye County; expressions of general opposition to the proposed repository; disapproval of Clark County's changed positions over time concerning the proposed repository; concern about the potential that the repository site would need to be reclaimed if the project does not proceed; concern about how the U.S. government has implemented the NEPA process in identifying and evaluating a potential repository site; discussion of the possible direction the repository licensing process could take should Congress appropriate additional funds for the project; support for choosing a repository site based on informed consent; support for placing spent nuclear fuel in a repository over continuing to store it at power plant sites; support for closing down nuclear power plants; and support for nuclear power.

Other comments included a comparison of the history of nuclear activities and potential groundwater contamination on the Nevada Test Site to the potential for impacts from the proposed repository; noted that DOE does not have the necessary water rights to operate a repository at Yucca Mountain; drew comparisons between potential risks from the repository and the risks humans face in everyday life; expressed concern about the potential for stress corrosion cracking in spent fuel storage containers; and expressed concerns about the NRC's cancellation of a study to determine the long-term cancer risk to people living near nuclear power plants.

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Enclosure: Meeting Attendees List

CONTACT: Christine Pineda, NMSS/YMD  
(301) 415-6789

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<b>OFFICE</b>	<b>NMSS/YMD</b>	<b>OGC</b>	<b>NMSS/YMD</b>
<b>NAME</b>	CPineda	AGendelman via email	JRubenstone via email
<b>DATE</b>	9/25/2015	10/6/2015	10/6/2015

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**List of Attendees**  
**Public Meeting on the NRC Staff's Draft Supplement to the**  
**Department of Energy Environmental Impact Statements for the**  
**Proposed Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada**  
**September 17, 2015; 7:00 p.m. – 8:56 p.m.**

	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Organization or Affiliation (if provided)</b>
1	John	Bosta	Amargosa Valley Town Board
2	Buck	Bray	Nye County, Nevada
3	Diane	Brighton	Citizen
4	Wayne	Brotherton	Nye County, Nevada
5	Margaret	Brotherton	Nye County, Nevada
6	Theresa	Cantwell	Citizen
7	Mike	Cottingham	Town of Amargosa, Nevada
8	Bruce	Crater	Citizen
9	I.W.	C. (illegible)	Citizen
10	Jacqui	Denlinger	Court reporter
11	Fred	Dilger	State of Nevada
12	Dorothy	Dolby	Citizen
13	Trevor	Dolby	Amargosa Town Office
14	Patrick	Donnelly	Amargosa Conservancy
15	Sophia	Doyle	Nye County, Nevada
16	Brenda	Dymond	Amargosa, Nevada
17	Annette	Fuentes	Citizen
18	Victor	Fuentes	Citizen
19	R.	Friese	Death Valley National Park
20	Ken	Garey	Amargosa, Nevada
21	Ed	Goedhart	Citizen
22	Gerhard	Gran	Citizen
23	Irene	Granados	Amargosa, Nevada
24	David	Hall	Nye County, Nevada
25	Bob	Halstead	Nevada Agency for Nuclear Projects
26	Josh	Hart	Inyo County, California
27	Ace	Hoffman	Citizen
28	Sharon	Hoffman	Citizen
29	Gary	Hollis	Nye County
30	Elaine	Jackson	Amargosa, Nevada
31	Cash	Jaszczak	Nye County, Nevada
32	Mary	King	Pahrump and Shoshone, Nevada
33	Matt	Kingsley	Inyo County, California
34	Toni	Kizzia	Tecopa, California
35	Darrell	Lacy	Nye County, Nevada
36	Andrew	Lingenfelter	Office of U.S. Senator Dean Heller
37	Bob	Little	Citizen

	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Organization or Affiliation (if provided)</b>
38	Sharon	Little	Citizen
39	Erwin	Martell	Amargosa, Nevada
40	Ana Rosa	Martinez	Amargosa, Nevada
41	Raul	Martinez	Amargosa, Nevada
42	Robert	McCracken	Nye County, Nevada
43	Rod	McCullum	Nuclear Energy Institute
44	Dave	Merritt	Amargosa, Nevada
45	Pat	Minshall	Amargosa, Nevada
46	G.	Nelson	Amargosa, Nevada
47	Amy	Noel	Tecopa Hot Springs Resort
48	Jonathan	Penman-Brotzman	National Park Service
49	William	Piffer	Amargosa, Nevada
50	Robert	Regan	Citizen
51	Cathreen	Richards	Inyo County, California
52	Jim	Rook	Citizen
53	Dan	Schinhofen	Nye County, Nevada
54	Carrie	Stewart	Zeus Environmental
55	Michelle	Swango	Amargosa, Nevada
56	Jack	Sypolt	Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board
57	Dan	Totheroh	Inyo County, California
58	George	T. (illegible)	Citizen
59	M.N.	Voegele	Nye County, Nevada
60	Jonathan	Zamora	Amargosa, Nevada
61	Illegible	Illegible	Citizen
62	Chip	Cameron	Zero Gravity Group (meeting facilitator)
63	Miriam	Juckett	Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses
64	David	Pickett	Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses
65	John	Stamatakos	Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses
66	Randy	Fedors	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
67	Adam	Gendelman	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
68	Tim	McCartin	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
69	Dave	McIntyre	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
70	Christine	Pineda	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
71	James	Rubenstone	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
72	Steve	Self	Nuclear Regulatory Commission