

8/21/2015
COPR 50895

(33)

Remarks before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Las Vegas Hearing

Embassy Suites Convention Center
3600 Paradise Road
Sept. 15, 2015 7 p.m.

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CAROLYN G. GOODMAN
MAYOR

- **Members of the Commission (Hearing Officer) my name is Carolyn Goodman, and I am the mayor of the city of Las Vegas.**
- **I am aware that the State of Nevada has submitted comments on the draft supplement to the US Department of Energy's Environmental Impact Statement for a Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High Level Radioactive Waste at Yucca Mountain. Those comments request an opportunity to have experts review the findings and respond accordingly. Our citizens deserve to have that request fulfilled.**
- **We appreciate the Commission scheduling a hearing in Las Vegas to allow our residents and businesses to voice their concerns about the travel to and storage of nuclear waste in southern Nevada as more than 2 million reside herein and are directly impacted by any decision related to Yucca Mountain.**
- **The Yucca Mountain debate is over. Leading experts, who participated in the Blue Ribbon Commission, agreed that we need a consent-based process to locate a nuclear waste site. Nevada never consented and never will.**
- **Transport and dumping of nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain would be dangerous for our citizens and visitors and for countless Americans across the Country who live, work and play near shipment routes. Nevadans are not negotiating and Nevada will never accept waste.**
- **Sending as many as 10,000 truck shipments of nuclear waste to Nevada across aging and deteriorated**

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infrastructure throughout the United States is a disaster waiting to happen and a chance we cannot take.

- **Nuclear waste on trains would pass near the world-famous Las Vegas Strip, government centers, downtown Las Vegas, and within one-half mile of tens-of-thousands of residents.**
- **The stakes are beyond too high to risk any incident of any failure or accident. As a former member of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, I know that the impact on Las Vegas's tourism and convention business would be catastrophic and severe on the impact at the nation's top tourist destination. With 42 million visitors annually, Las Vegas would become an immediate ghost town.**
- **The U.S. Conference of Mayors (1200 + mayors of cities of 30,000 or larger) twice voted unanimously, for the Department of Energy to focus on the treatment, repurposing, de-activation rather than the movement and /or storage of waste on-site and avoid further health and environmental impacts from the transportation of waste to Nevada. We should listen to our nation's mayors who represent millions of citizens who do not want nuclear waste traveling through their neighborhoods, and NONE WANTS STORAGE IN THEIR BACKYARDS; WHY THEN SHOULD NEVADA BE THE GUINEA PIG!**
- **The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) own Safety Evaluation Report concluded that because the Department of Energy (DOE) does not have the land or water rights needed for Yucca, the Commission SHOULD NOT LICENSE the project. The NRC is wasting time and taxpayer dollars by updating old studies for a site that will never be used to store nuclear waste.**
 - **The NRC's study is fundamentally flawed, and its conclusions are illogical, nonsensical and moot.**
 - **The DOE's application requires the installation of titanium drip shields a hundred years after the**

repository is closed with no guarantee the technology or taxpayer dollars will even be available to install the drip shields. It also assumes the nuclear industry will transfer nuclear waste into obsolete storage canisters that the industry itself says it won't use.

- Because the NRC's study relies on assumptions about the application that are not ground in reality, it reaches dangerous conclusions that should not even be in the public domain.**
- I would ask the Commission to listen to Nevadans and hear our concerns. Please don't put our communities in harms-way and protect taxpayer dollars by opposing licensing of Yucca Mountain.**
- Thank you for coming to Las Vegas to hear our concerns.**