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General Comment

Nevada Should not be held responsible for housing the nations nuclear waste.

The claim by the NRC that using Nevada's Yucca Mountain as a dumpsite would be small, minimal and essentially harmless should be re-evaluated. If this goes on as planned, the risk of nuclear radiation poses a serious threat.

First, there is the potential risk of radioactive material leaking into the groundwater and contaminating it. The limited supply of ground water, which is used for drinking water and irrigation in Armargosa valley, the Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Death Valley National Park. Death Valley is also home to the Timbisha Shoshone Indian community who would then be put into harms way.

Second there is also the potential risk of nuclear radiation, which would create serious long-term health risks to the citizens of Nevada. Such health risks include birth defects, cancer and even death.

Its no mistake that 2/3rds of Nevada's resident oppose this, and for a good reason. Aside from potential health issues and contaminated water it also damages Nevada's image as a place for tourists to come. Las Vegas is an international icon, which is only 80 miles away from Yucca Mountain. This could severely impact the states livelihood of tourism, which it so depends on.

Lastly, there is the issue of safety concerns. Yucca Mountain is a geologically active. If Yucca Mountain were to erupt, the results would be devastating. As well as Yucca Mountain potentially erupting, having a giant nuclear waste area is a large target for terrorism.

Using Nevada's Yucca Mountain is a complete disregard to the well being a on Nevada as a state. Instead of Nevada being responsible for housing the entire countries nuclear waste (which 90% comes from east of the Mississippi river), It should be the responsibility of the producers to 'clean up' the waste in a responsible matter. Rather than dumping the waste in the back yards of Nevada residents, among one of three alternatives

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to 'burying it' a viable solution would be transmutation, the backwards engineering of the nuclear waste to turn it into a non-radioactive element. This would be the best option because it's a long-term solution to the problem.