



Caliente Corridor Local Perspectives

To: Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board

By: Kevin Phillips
Mayor, City of Caliente

Candice Trummell,
Chairman, Nye County Commission Board

Date: February 10, 2005

What We Plan to Accomplish Today

- We will describe how the needs and concerns of those who are most impacted by waste transportation to Yucca Mountain can be addressed
- We welcome and encourage assistance and recommendations for accomplishing our objectives
- In the past we have spent a considerable amount of energy communicating why we are “affected” and the extent of our “affectedness” – we aren't going to do that today – rather we plan on defining a “Path Forward”

[Working Together]

“The jurisdictions along the Caliente Corridor -- Caliente, Esmeralda, Lincoln, and Nye -- have in recent months achieved an unprecedented level of cooperation. While we have some different needs, concerns and distinct and separate programs, we recognize that it is critical to our success that we work together.”

[How We Measure Success]

“Success is maximizing the positive impacts and minimizing the negative impacts of the Yucca Mountain Project.”

Making the Transition

- DOE continues to transition to what we refer to as the “Transportation **Policy** Phase” of the Project
- This is a crucial phase for the corridor communities – many of the key decisions that affect our future will be made in the next few years
- This transition has created many challenges for the affected units of government
- DOE is working very hard on developing constructive relationships, but we sense that the attorneys are interpreting the NWPA far too strictly

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“Addressing the national waste management and transportation needs and the concerns of those most impacted requires success in bringing the technical and policy worlds together and giving the transportation corridor communities **the latitude and authority to be fully engaged in the policy making process.**”

[How Do We Approach Yucca?]

- Very much like the original State of Nevada approach
 - State of Nevada took constructive approach
 - When the urban economies transitioned from dependency on federal jobs, it became politically correct to oppose the project

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15—ASSEMBLYMEN MANN, ROBINSON, PRICE, HICKEY, MAY, GETTO, JACOBSEN, HAYES, MOODY, CHANEY, SCHOFIELD, BENKOVICH, DREYER, HOWARD, HEANEY, BENNETT, CHRISTENSEN, JEFFREY, VERGIELS, SENA AND BROOKMAN

FEBRUARY 26, 1975

Referred to Concurrent Committees on Environment and Public Resources and Commerce

SUMMARY—Urges the Energy Research and Development Administration to choose the Nevada Test Site for disposal of nuclear wastes and for solar energy research under the Solar Energy Research, Development and Demonstration Act of 1974. (BDR 1030)



EXPLANATION—Matter in italics is new; matter in brackets [] is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging the Energy Research and Development Administration to choose the Nevada Test Site for disposal of nuclear wastes and for solar energy research under the Solar Energy Research, Development and Demonstration Act of 1974.

1 WHEREAS, The now supplanted Atomic Energy Commission has, over
2 the years, demonstrated an outstanding concern for nuclear safety and
3 has compiled, at the Nevada Test Site, an equally outstanding safety
4 record; and

5 [REDACTED]
6
7

8 WHEREAS, The unemployment rate in Clark County, Nevada, is 20.7
9 percent higher than the disturbingly high national unemployment rate;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The people and the leaders in many states being considered
12 as sites for nuclear disposal have serious anxieties and doubts about pro-
13 viding disposal sites; and

14 [REDACTED]
15
16

17 WHEREAS, Southern Nevada also offers an excellent environment in
18 which to explore the potential of solar energy; and

1 WHEREAS, National energy independence and a clean environment are
2 dependent upon tapping nonfossil fuel sources of energy for heating, cool-
3 ing and electricity; and

4 WHEREAS, The existing facilities of the Nevada Test Site and its sup-
5 port infrastructure are available and well suited to scientific research in
6 addition to nuclear projects; and

7 WHEREAS, Nuclear waste disposal and solar energy research can both
8 be carried out at the Nevada Test Site with minimal capital investment
9 relative to other locations; now, therefore, be it

10 [REDACTED]
11
12
13

14 Resolved, That under the provisions of the Solar Energy Research,
15 Development and Demonstration Act of 1974 the Energy Research and
16 Development Administration utilize the extensive resources and facilities
17 of the Nevada Test Site to explore the potential uses of solar energy; and
18 be it further

19 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be prepared and transmitted
20 by the legislative counsel to the administrator of the Energy Research and
21 Development Administration, to the assistant administrators for nuclear
22 energy and for solar, geothermal and advanced energy systems and to all
23 members of Nevada's congressional delegation; and be it further

24 Resolved, That this act shall become effective upon passage and
25 approval.

WHEREAS, the Atomic Energy Commission of the United States has developed a Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Commercial High Level and Transuranic Radioactive Waste; and,

WHEREAS, the Atomic Energy Commission is considering three sites for storage of such wastes, namely: the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, the Nevada Test Site, and the Hanford Reservation in Washington; and,

WHEREAS, the Atomic Energy Commission had previously allowed public comment to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement from September 12, 1974 to October 28, 1974; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Nevada has requested that all Nevada citizens be given every opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement; and,

WHEREAS, the Atomic Energy Commission has agreed to extend the comment period to December 12, 1974, by conducting a public hearing on December 12, 1974, at 10:00 A.M. in the Ramada Inn, 999 S. Main Street in Salt Lake City, Utah.

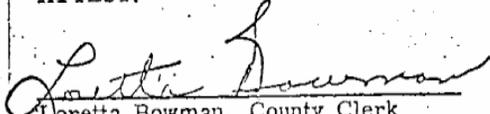
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners do hereby endorse the request of the Governor of Nevada, and urge the residents of Clark County to review and comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 5th day of December, 1974.



TOM WIESNER, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:



Loretta Bowman, County Clerk

[How Do We Approach Yucca?]

- Our past shapes our vision of the future
 - Esmeralda and Nye County economies remain dependent on the federal sector
 - Lincoln County has a long history of hazardous material rail transport

[How Do We Approach Yucca?]

- The time has come to quit dwelling on the State of Nevada approach
- We are realistic and need to focus on the future
 - Our country needs nuclear technology
 - There will be a central storage facility
 - The only way we can protect the public is by being actively engaged

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“We don’t wish to demean the State or activists who oppose Yucca. We have safety concerns of our own. We just don’t believe it is beneficial to attempt to tangle everything up in ‘process’ – we must take a substantive approach to properly address questions of safety.”

[Our Agenda]

- To stay focused on substance and encourage others to take the focus off of intervention
- To be involved in a wide range of decisions by overcoming bureaucratic hurdles
- To continue intergovernmental cooperation so that:
 - Corridor jurisdictions can maximize repository and transportation system opportunities
 - High quality jobs and business opportunities are created in rural Nevada

[Our Agenda]

- To continue intergovernmental cooperation for the purpose of:
 - Safeguarding property rights along the Caliente Corridor
 - Developing transportation contingency plans
 - Further developing emergency management capabilities
 - Being involved in transportation system operational procedure decisions
 - Developing high quality communications systems
 - Improving emergency health services

Current Actions

- The corridor communities are reaching out to affected local citizens and using this information to provide input on local impacts and concerns
- We are also developing input on local economic development opportunities associated with a rail line within the Caliente Corridor

Current Actions

- Our goal is a rail alignment that addresses local property owner concerns to the maximum extent possible and an alignment with spurs as necessary to maximize economic benefits
- We continue to meet directly with affected individuals to understand their views concerning mitigation and compensation assuming that the final alignment does not solve all concerns

Conclusion

- Our approach is to work constructively with all parties involved with the goal of bringing reasonable people together to identify safe and economically viable approaches to transporting spent fuel and high-level waste to Yucca Mountain