TM / TRB MTG. 18 TUES. 11 SEPT., '01 (CROWNE PLAZA, LAS VEGAS, NV.) (CHAIRMAN: DR. JARED COHON) ~

• PUBLIC COMMENT:

× TOM MCGOWAN. LAS VEGAS RESIDENT INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF THE HUMAN AND UNIVERSAL PUBLIC. GOOD AFTERNOON.

• FIRST, 'THANK YOU' FOR YOUR KIND PROVISION OF COFFEE AND DONUTS TO 'THOSE IN NEED', AND FOR YOUR COURTEOUS AND CONGENIAL INTERFACE WITH THOSE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO, .. OF NECESSITY, .. GOT UP AT THE 'CRACK OF ICE' IN ORDER TO BE HERE AT SUCH AN UN-GODLY HOUR.

• I HAVE PROVIDED THE TEAM OF TRANSCRIBERS WITH THE VERBATIM WRITTEN TEXT OF MY PUBLIC COMMENT IN YESTERDAY'S MEETING (MON. 10 SEPT.) AS WELL AS TODAY'S (TUES. 11 SEPT.), .. INCLUDING THE UN-ASKED AND UN-ANSWERED PUBLIC QUESTIONS WHICH YOU MAY ADDRESS AT YOUR DISCRETION AND CONVENIENCE, IN SECURE COGNIZANCE OF THE CERTAINTY THAT INTENTIONAL NON-RESPONSE TO PUBLIC QUERY IS IN FACT A RESPONSE (AND INDEED, THE MOST ELUCIDATIVE RESPONSE) ON THE PUBLIC RECORD.

• HOWEVER, .. THE TRANSCRIBERS WILL HAVE TO 'COPE' WITH MY EXTEMPORANEOUS PUBLIC COMMENTS DURING YESTERDAY AFTERNOON'S (PERHAPS UNDERSTANDABLY) 'PASSIONATE MONOLOGUE', BECAUSE IT WAS NOT WRITTEN IN ADVANCE, AND, .. IF I COULD REMEMBER ANY OF IT, .. I'D 'HAVE AN ACT', AS THE SAY IN 'SHOW-BUSINESS'!

• THERE IS ONE (1) BIT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION YOU MAY FIND VARIABLY 'REWARDING' OR ALTERNATELY DISCONCERTING: ~ THE 'WHISPER' HAS IT DR. LAKE BARRETT MAY BE VERGING ON VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT, .. AND, CERTAINLY, .. THOSE SHOES (AND THAT 'FAST PATHWAY') WILL BE DIFFICULT TO

(TM/TRB)

'FILL', .. CONSISTENT WITH THE CAVEAT : ~

- "GOOD HELP IS HARD TO FIND";
- "YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR"; AND:~
- "IF YOU WANT IT DONE 'RIGHT', YOU ALMOST HAVE TO DO IT YOUR SELF!"

.. WHICH IS 'WHY', IN AN UNGUARDED MOMENT, I JUMPED INTO THE 'BREACH' AND SUBMITTED MY (UNSOLICITED) APPLICATION TO SUCCEED DR. BARRETT, AS THE NEXT ACTING DIRECTOR OF DOE/OCRWM/YMPO(!), .. WHICH, .. 'IF' AND 'WHEN' 'ACCEPTED' AND 'APPROVED', .. WILL CAUSE 'GREAT CONSTERNATION AND ANGUISHED GNASHING OF TEETH' FAR AND WIDE, .. OFFSET BY A SPONTANEOUS 'VICTORY CELEBRATION' INVOLVING ECSTATIC NATIVE AMERICANS AND OTHER INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC! .. BUT, 'FEAR NOT'.. I DO HAVE 'OTHER PRESSING PRIORITIES', .. AND 'SOMEONE' (CONCEIVABLY FAR LESS 'WORTHY' THAN 'ME') UNDOUBTEDLY WILL RUSH TO FILL THAT 'GAPING VOID'! ~

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* BUT, SERIOUSLY, -- I WOULD BE REMISS WERE I NOT TO EXPRESS MY SINCERE APPRECIATION, ADMIRATION AND RESPECT FOR THE EXHAUSTIVE WORK PRODUCT AND DEDICATION TO PURPOSE EXHIBITED BY DR. BARRETT AS WELL AS EACH AND ALL OF YOU, WITHOUT EXCEPTION, .. IN TIRELESS PURSUIT OF AN ELUSIVE ISSUE WHOSE DAUNTING COMPLEXITY IS THE MORESO CONFOUNDING BECAUSE IT CHALLENGES OUR INTROSPECTIVE UNDERSTANDING OF HUMAN NATURE ITSELF, .. AND LITERALLY 'DARES' US TO STRIVE TOWARD ATTAINMENT OF A SEEMINGLY 'IMPOSSIBLE' GOAL IN TERMS OF A HIGHER IDEALIZED STANDARD OF HUMAN QUALITY, IN THE SPIRIT OF GENUINE COMMUNITY.

(TM/TRB)

• I FIRMLY BELIEVE, -- BEYOND THE PERCEPTION OF CIRCUMSTANTIALLY 'ADVERSARIAL' ROLES, -- WE ARE ESSENTIALLY ONE (1) PEOPLE; -- ONE (1) SPECIES, -- IN SIGHT OF A SUPREME BEING, -- AND I SUBMIT TO YOU, -- IN MY PERSONALLY ELECTIVE ROLE, -- I AM NEITHER YOUR 'ENEMY' NOR YOUR 'FRIEND', -- BUT ONLY THE (SEEMINGLY 'PRESUMPTUOUS') REMINDER OF YOUR PRIVATE AND PERSONAL 'CONSCIENCE', -- AND OF THE UNALTERABLE FACT THAT, -- WITHIN EACH REASONING BEING, CREATOR-ENDOWED WITH INTELLECT, FREE WILL AND CONSCIENCE, -- THERE IS A HEART THAT BEATS FOR ALL MANKIND, -- AND THAT, ESSENTIALLY, -- IN THE WORDS OF BUCKMINSTER FULLER, -- 'UNITY IS PLURAL'!

• THE ISSUE, THEN, CANNOT ELSE BUT ULTIMATELY SERVE TO 'BRING US TOGETHER', ENROUTE TOWARD A BRILLIANT HORIZON OF EXTRAORDINARY HUMAN ACHIEVEMENT, WHICH LIES JUST UP AHEAD!

• PHILLIP WYLIE'S BOOK: "THE ANSWER", -- TOLD OF AN ANGEL WHO FELL TO EARTH, AND CARRIED A GOLDEN BOOK WITH BUT A SINGLE PAGE, ON WHICH WERE INSCRIBED THE WORDS: --

"LOVE EACH OTHER."

• AND, PERHAPS SURPRISINGLY, BUT IRREFUTABLY, -- THAT (AND NOTHING ELSE) IS THE KEY TO A CLOSER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR SELVES, EACH OTHER, AND THE SUBJECT TOPIC ISSUE SURROUNDING THE STORAGE AND DISPOSAL OF HIGH LEVEL NUCLEAR WASTE, -- AS WELL AS THE BROAD RANGE OF PRIORITY IMPERATIVE ISSUES WHICH CHALLENGE REASONING HUMANITY.

(TM/TRB)

• ASSISTIVE TO A CLOSER UNDERSTANDING, -- IT'S BEEN SAID THAT: ~
"MUSIC IS A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE." ...(i.e.), --
"LET ME HEAR THE MUSIC OF A NATION, AND I HAVE NO NEED TO KNOW THEIR LAWS!" ~ AND TODAY, INCREASINGLY, IT SEEMS 'GOOD MUSIC' MAY BE THE 'ONLY SWEET THING LEFT.'

• AND SO, IN CLOSING, -- I WISH TO SHARE A FACTUAL STORY ABOUT A DISHEVELLED HERMIT, WHO LIVED IN A TREE, HIGH ABOVE THE LAUREL CANYON WILDERNESS AREA OF GRIFFITH PARK, IN LOS ANGELES, CALIF. ONE DAY, HE DESCENDED FROM HIS LEAFY PERCH, AND, -- GARBED IN HIS THREADBARE ROBE AND OPEN SANDALS, AND CARRYING A MANUSCRIPT, -- HE MADE HIS WAY DOWNHILL TO THE (THEN) 'WORLD CAPITAL OF RECORDED MUSIC', AT SUNSET AND VINE, IN HOLLYWOOD, -- WHERE HE MANAGED TO HAVE PUBLISHED THE ONLY SONG HE HAD EVER WRITTEN, WHICH WAS PROMPTLY RECORDED BY NAT 'KING' COLE AND BECAME AN INSTANT 'HIT'. ~ THE SONG WAS BIOGRAPHICAL, AND ALTHOUGH THE HERMIT/COMPOSER, WHOSE NAME WAS: 'EDEN ABEZ', LATER DIED AND WAS FORGOTTEN, -- THE SONG, ENTITLED: "NATURE BOY", DESERVEDLY TOOK ITS PLACE IN THE ANNALS OF IMMORTAL MUSIC, BECAUSE OF THE INSIGHTFUL HUMAN WISDOM EXPRESSED IN ITS UNFORGETTABLE CLOSING LINE, WHICH SAID: ~

.."THE GREATEST THING WE'LL EVER LEARN, IS JUST TO LOVE, AND BE LOVED IN RETURN!"

• AT THIS JUNCTURE, IN THE SPIRIT OF FELLOWSHIP, -- I'LL 'THANK YOU' FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE MY FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT TO THE EMINENT AND PRESTIGIOUS CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD OF THE UNITED STATES, -- SECURE IN THE COGNIZANCE THAT, -- BOLSTERED BY THAT CLOSER UNDERSTANDING OF HUMAN NATURE AND THE INTRINSIC VALUE OF ALL CURRENT AND ENSUING HUMAN EXISTENCE, -- YOU WILL INDEED DO THE 'RIGHT' THING, IN SIGHT OF ALMIGHTY GOD! ~ 'THANK YOU', .. AND: 'GOODBYE'.

TM/TRB ~~Tues~~ WED 12 SEPT '01

- TOM MCGOWAN - LAS VEGAS RESIDENT -

- IN CONCLUSION (!), --(I USUALLY GET A 'STANDING OVATION' AT THIS POINT!, -- BUT, DON'T GET UP!) --

- THE 'COST COMPARISON' PRESENTATION WAS INTERESTING INASMUCH AS IT MADE NO REFERENCE WHATSOEVER TO THE IN-SITU GENERATION OF THERMAL ENERGY-INDUCED POWER ADEQUATE TO OFFSET AN SUBSTANTIAL SEGMENT OR ENTIRETY THE COST OF OPERATING AT A NET PROFIT IN TERMS OF BOTH TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE ~~BENEFITS~~ OMNI-APPLICABLE BENEFITS OVER AN EXTENDED TERM.

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