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4 SEP 30 1999 MR. WILLIAM: I'm Jim Williams, and I've worked
5 the Nye County for several years now on issues -- on
6 socioeconomic and transportation and finance issues related to
7 the Yucca Mountain repository in Nye County, and I have a few
8 comments about socioeconomics and just a few about
9 transportation.

1 10 The EIS states on page 3-17 that Nye County had a
11 population of 26,000 in 1997, and the same table says that
12 information about the population of Nye County communities in
13 1991 and '95 was not available.

14 Nye County, since before the 1990 census, has
15 prepared quarterly population estimates using a consistent
16 method of population in each Nye County community, Pahrump,
17 Amargosa, Beatty, northeastern Nye County, Tonopah and so
18 forth.

19 All of these have been widely distributed, all
20 with their methods carefully explained in the -- in the
21 documents.

22 Now I should say that especially in Pahrump, our
23 estimates have been considered too low and conservative, but
24 what they do show is that the estimate for 1997 for the county
25 was 31,300, not 26,000.

2... 1 And in this and other ways, I believe the EIS
2 does not account for the recent growth and change in Nye County
3 and assumes that this Yucca Mountain project will be imposed on
4 what is essentially a static community.

3... 5 The EIS also assumes in all its radiation
6 exposure estimates that there's 28,000 -- there will be 28,000

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7 people within a fifty mile radius of Yucca Mountain.

8 You know, Nye County has published population
9 estimates which showed that the county population in fifty
10 miles, which includes Pahrump, will be at least 47,100 in 2010
11 when this project starts, and this doesn't include the
12 population that's in California or down in Indian Springs.

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13 Nor does it include -- and this is specifically
14 stated in the projections -- the results of Nye County's
15 economic development activities, which have been vigorous in
16 the last few years.

17 Nor does it include some things -- and this is
18 also stated in the projections -- that are beyond trends, and
19 here I'm talking about the Mountain Falls and other kinds of
20 major subdivisions that are under development right here in
21 Pahrump.

22 Since 1992 when weapons tested -- testing ceased
23 on the Nevada Test Site, the Department of Energy, the Nevada
24 Operations Office of the Department of Energy had begun to
25 think about new missions for the Nevada Test Site, and Nye

1 County sort of working a little bit off of -- in -- in response
2 to that, has developed ambitious plans for development of the
3 US 95 corridor and that these plan -- these plans envision a
4 future for Nye County that would make it something more than
5 just a dump for DOE's low-level radioactive waste, for the
6 prospective high-level radioactive waste and for the hazardous
7 waste that's going into Beatty.

8 And in developing these plans, many Nye County
9 residents and communities have been involved and Nye County

10 Commissioners have been heavily involved in the development of
11 these plans.

...3 12 So in the assumption of the 28,000 within a fifty
13 mile radius, the -- the EIS is assuming that the Yucca Mountain
14 project will be imposed on its static -- on a community that's
15 static at a level that the county passed way back in the mid-
16 1990s.

4 17 Now on transportation. The EIS looks at a lot of
18 transportation options, as Les mentioned, and it states these
19 are to bound future decisions on trans -- on the specifics of
20 transportation that were made in process, but what it doesn't
21 do is tell what DOE would commit to regarding transportation,
22 the nation's entire inventory of high-level waste into this
23 single rural county, and -- nor does it reference the Nye
24 County Commission statements on what is acceptable in the site.
25 county.

5 1 A couple of comments on those. The Commission
2 has passed resolutions last year that said -- that state that
3 heavy haul of rigs that are in the EIS two-thirds of the length
4 of a football field, as Sally mentioned at 20, 25 miles an hour
5 down the US 95 corridor is -- you know, is not acceptable; that
6 the US 95 corridor is Nye County's traditional -- Nye County's
7 and Esmeralda County's traditional Main Street, so to speak,
8 and the county has said that.

9 Yet the -- without a rail line, the E -- EIS
10 estimates say that there will be at least 300 such shipments,
11 and under other circumstances, many, many more.

12 MR. BROWN: Five minutes.

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13 MR. WILLIAM: I have just two more quick points.

14 The Commission has stated that the Chalk Mountain
15 route, which would cross into Yetz, is the preferred route for
16 rail shipment if shipment occurs, and the only potential
17 acceptable route for heavy haul, yet the EIS said that this is
18 a non-preferred route, and why? Because of -- of an objection
19 within the federal family.

20 The Comm -- the Nye County Commission has called
21 for in resolutions an integrated plan for the large respective
22 volume of low-level radioactive waste shipments and for
23 prospective high-level and has strongly asserted that this plan
24 should include full site county involvement.

25 Yet the EIS leaves all of that to a pro -- a set
1 of decisions and process that would not be likely to result
2 in a best practice plan for modes, routes, equipment and
3 operations of transportation of this volume of fuel.

4 And then with reference to the Jean route, the
5 man previously asked the question about this. The Jean rail
6 route would cross -- would cross the fan above -- northeast --
7 going northeast along Pahrump.

8 It would look down on the Mountain Falls and the
9 Haven subdivision which have been approved by the Nye Regional
10 Planning Commission and could have as many as 9,000 units in
11 the eastern sections of Pahrump.

12 So that's it.