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3 MR. FULKERSON: Good afternoon. My name is
4 Bob Fulkerson. I am the director of the
5 Progressive Leadership Alliance in Nevada. I came
6 out here last night from Reno. I am also a fifth-
7 generation Nevadan. I worked between 1984 and
8 1994 for a statewide environmental group called
9 Citizen Alert. In 1994 I was debating a number of
10 people from the nuclear power industry and the
11 Department of Energy who asked what my
12 qualifications were. In fact at that time I said
13 I had a third-grade education and I could read,
14 and I know this project is wrong. Well, today
15 I've been working on it for about 15 years and I
16 think that experience gives me a little bit more
17 credibility than I had back then.
18 I have a whole outline of things I wanted to
19 say that I wrote up last week, but after hearing
20 today some of the comments I want to diverge from
21 1... that a little bit. I'm very much disturbed by the
22 don't-dump-it-here, dump-it-on-Nevada thing that
23 I've heard from some of your elected officials and
24 the Public Service commissioner and other folks.
25 And they're talking about let's follow the Nuclear

1 1 cont. Waste Policy Act of 1982. That Act has not been
2 followed. It has been bastardized, it's been
3 changed, it's been destroyed. And so to hide
4 behind that Act is disingenuous in the extreme.
5 What about the United States Constitution? What
6 about the concept of equal protection under the
7 law, that no state and no individuals should have
8 to bear the brunt of the risk that other
9 individuals aren't willing to share and don't have
10 to share because they have more political power?
11 And that's what this comes down to: raw, pure
12 political power and pieces of silver which I hear
13 jingling in this room. And if I get emotional,
14 I'm really sorry.
15 But that's what this issue is about. It's
16 not about pieces of silver, it's not about
17 campaign contributions and how much money your
18 utility got in to elect pro-nuclear waste
19 congresspeople. It's about people, it's about
20 people in my state. And let me tell you about
21 5... Nevada a little bit. All right? You know, Yucca
22 Mountain is not some godawful place out in the
23 middle of nowhere. It's home to a lot of critters.
24 It's a dry place; sure it is, just like Nevada is.
25 But you know what that means? It means we value

1 5 cont. our water a hell of a lot more. It means water to
2 us is precious; it's God given. And damn it, we're
3 going to protect it. We're going to protect it
4 from you and a lot of people, not everybody in
5 here but the people out there, the people in here
6 who want to destroy it, want to pollute it.
7 2 Because you know what? That dump is designed to
8 leak and it is going to leak. And people who say
9 it's not going to leak, that our computer
10 calculations say it's two-tenths of a rem over
11 10,000 years? Baloney. You know, you're guilty
12 of hubris, and in our western civilization there's
13 a nasty price to pay for that.
14 3... Anyway, I -- and I'm glad to see the people,
15 the gentlemen and some of the women from Georgia
16 and these other southern states have so much
17 confidence in the federal government's ability to
18 do this safely. You know, come out to Nevada. We
19 will show you the crosses in downwind communities
20 who lost their faith and who lost their lives
21 because the last time the federal government came
22 out to Nevada they said, "We can do this safely,
23 don't worry." They told my grandparents and my
24 parents and my cousins and my uncles, "Don't worry
25 about the radioactive fallout, just dust it off

1 3 cont. your windshield. It's okay, there's no problem."
2 We know now that the government then, in the
3 '50s and '60s, knew full well there was a problem
4 with radioactive fallout. But they didn't tell
5 us. In fact, when I asked the question earlier
6 how many Nevadans had been affected, you know,
7 that answer has been answered definitively by the
8 courts, by a Salt Lake City federal judge, Bruce
9 Jenkins, in the 1986 landmark downwinder case, who
10 said at least 1,600 Nevadans and Utahans were
11 killed as a result of the last time the government
12 and the nuclear industry -- the nuclear weapons
13 industry, granted -- tried to make Nevadans their
14 guinea pigs. Now thousands more are affected by
15 that, but there was a definitive number of 1,600.
16 4... Now, in the Draft Environmental Impact
17 Statement it talks about no minority populations
18 or low-income populations will be adversely
19 affected. Well, downwind of the test site there
20 are several Indian reservations, and they will
21 definitely be adversely affected. In fact, in the
22 treaty of Ruby Valley of 1863, which I noticed is
23 nowhere mentioned, there is granted in that treaty
24 the right to the Western Shoshone to use that
25 area, and in fact who claim ownership and in fact

1 4 cont. who have refused $130 million payments for the
2 mountain because they want their land back and
3 they want to keep it clean and uncontaminated. So
4 there are definitely some adverse impacts on so-
5 called minority populations.
6 6 You know, the thing that's also interesting
7 is that you in the east have generated and used
8 and benefited from nuclear power for the last 30
9 to 40 years, knowing full well that there was a
10 mounting problem of nuclear waste. Guess how much
11 energy we generate in Nevada from nuclear power.
12 Wild guess? That's right: zero, not a watt. So
13 for you to say, "Oh, we've got to do this, we've
14 got to do it for the good of the country and for
15 the good of our community, and for God's sakes
16 don't put it in Georgia," to say, "We're going to
17 solve this problem; we'll dump it out here in
18 Nevada" -- it's an insult. It's a big insult, and
19 it's wrong. It's morally wrong. And you know
20 what? We're in the Bible belt, so it's also an
21 unchristian thing to do. And I hope you'll take
22 that to your churches on Sunday. I've got more to
23 say about that, but I've used up five minutes.