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I AM WRITING TO YOU TO VOICE MY CONCERNS ADDRESSED BY THE RELEASE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT OF YUCCA MOUNTAIN, NEVADA. THIS IS A VERY EMOTIONAL ISSUE FOR ME AS I AM BOTH A NATIVE AMERICAN & RESIDENT OF LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, ALBEIT TEMPORARILY LIVING IN WISCONSIN.

1... MY MAIN ISSUE IS THE FUTURE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR SOUTHERN NEVADANS & CALIFORNIANS WHO ARE GOING TO LIVE WITHIN THE NUCLEAR WASTE REPOSITORY IMPACTED ZONE. WITH THIS STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED NEAR A POPULATED AREA (LAS VEGAS), HOW CAN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY GUARANTEE THAT RESIDENTS & VISITORS WILL NOT BE UNDULY AFFECTED BY RADIATION LEAKAGE? PRESENTLY, MONITORING SITES HAVE BEEN LOCATED IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS OF TONAPAH, RACHEL, & LASVEGAS TO MEASURE THE EFFECTS OF PAST ATOMIC EXPLOSIONS & STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT LOCAL RESIDENTS SUFFER HIGHER RATES OF CANCERS. IS THIS ACCEPTABLE? I DON'T THINK SO. WOULD YOU WANT TO LIVE NEAR THIS FACILITY, RAISE YOUR FAMILY, & WATCH YOUR FUTURE GENERATIONS DIE FROM VARIOUS

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1 cont.

CANCERS OR LEUKEMIA? IS THE EIS CORRECTLY ADDRESSING THE GROUNDS WATER CONTAMINATION CONCERNS? WATER THAT WILL EVENTUALLY BE CONSUMED BY THE HUMAN & ANIMAL POPULATION OF THE REGION? *SEE P.S.

2

ANOTHER ISSUE I HAVE IS THE TRANSPORTATION OF THE WASTE. IF AS THE DOE STUDIES DEMONSTRATE, AN ACCIDENT DURING THE SHIPMENT PROCESS (1:343 RATIO) HAPPENS IN A POPULATED AREA, WHO WILL ACCEPT PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY, YOU? I'VE SEEN THE INFOCOMMERCIALS BACK IN 1991 SHOWING A LOCOMOTIVE SMASHING INTO THE STAINLESS STEEL WASTE CONTAINER - I WASN'T CONVINCED. IF THE WASTE TRAVELS BY RAIL, IT MAKES SENSE THAT IT WILL PASS THROUGH THE HEART OF LAS VEGAS & NORTH LAS VEGAS, NOT TO MENTION NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE. WHAT ADDITIONAL SAFE GUARDS ARE BEING DISCUSSED TO PREVENT ANY ACCIDENTAL LEAKAGE OF RADACTIVITY. IT WOULD BE VERY EASY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS OR INDIVIDUALS TO BLOCK RAIL ROUTES, REMEMBER THE SHOSHONE-BANNOCK TRIBE IN FORT HALL, IDAHO, USING THEIR POLICE FORCE TO PREVENT A NUCLEAR SHIPMENT IN 1995? WHAT IF A TERRORIST GROUP DID THAT? HOW SECURE ARE THESE SHIPMENTS GOING TO BE?

3...

LASTLY, I ADDRESS THE POLICY OF THE DOCTRINE OF MANIFEST DESTINY, WHICH ALLOWED UNLAWFUL SIEZURE OF WESTERN SHOSHONE & PAUITE TRIBAL LANDS. THESE LAWS ARE STILL UNDER DISPUTE, REGARDLESS OF THE SUPPOSED "TREATY" NEGOTIATED BY THE GOVERNMENT &

(2)

3 cont. A DISRUPTABLE LAWYER. ANY LONG-TERM DISPOSAL FACILITY NEEDS TO BE FREE OF POSSIBLE LEGAL OR ETHICAL ENCUMBERANCES.]

4. [ALTHOUGH I AM ONLY MENTIONING A FEW ISSUES CONCERNING THE USE OF THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN SITE, IT IS MY INTENT THAT THERE NEEDS TO BE A MORE THOUGHTFUL PROCESS BEFORE ANY ACTUAL SHIPMENTS OR STORAGE OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS IS MADE. A MORE EXTENSIVE STUDY OF THE GEOLOGICAL, ECOLOGICAL, HUMAN GENETIC, & MECHANICAL EFFECTS & CONSEQUENCES OF THIS FACILITY (ESPECIALLY SINCE IT WILL BE AROUND 10^{35} YEARS) NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED & EXPLAINED TO THE LOCAL POPULATION. IN A DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC THE ULTIMATE DECISION RESTS WITH THE MAJORITY, BUT WHO WANTS IT IN THEIR BACKYARD? THOSE INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED NEEDS TO BE HEARD.]

MY SYMPATHIES LIE WITH MY NATIVE HERITAGE, KNOWING THAT OUR DECISIONS TODAY WILL AFFECT OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE, AND THEIR CHILDREN'S FUTURE. I AM ALSO AWARE OF THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY AS MY MOTHER WAS A STRUCTURAL ENGINEER WITH BECHTEL & FLOOR DANIEL (AS A DESIGNER OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS LIKE "SONGS", CALIFORNIA), SO I HAVE A UNIQUE WAY OF LOOKING AT THINGS.

5... [My SUGGESTION IS THAT THERE BE A EXTENDED

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5 cont.

FORWARD TO STUDY THE CONSEQUENCES OF THIS
FACILITY IN THE SOUTHERN NEVADA / CALIFORNIA
REGION. IT'S A MATTER OF BALANCE IN NATURE.]

IN SPIRIT, STRENGTH,
& SONG,

— Joseph Kipo

*PS.

¹
(cont'd.)

[I WONDER ABOUT POSSIBLE GROUND WATER
CONTAMINATION WITH LAKE MEADE / COLORADO
RIVER WATER SUPPLYING LOS ANGELES,
SAN DIEGO, PHOENIX AREAS. THIS FACILITY IS
ONLY 100 MILES AWAY FROM THIS SOURCE &
ANY GEOLOGIC SHIFTING FROM EARTHQUAKES
CAN RELEASE HARMFUL RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS
IN THE POTABLE WATER SUPPLY.]

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