

PUBLIC STATEMENT OF JOHN HADDER

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MR. HADDER: Yes, my name is John Hadder, and I'm on staff with Citizen Alert.

I'm going to speak to just say a few brief comments. Citizen Alert will be submitting written comments in more detail and probably speaking at other hearings as well.

1 I wanted to underscore the public process part as well because this is an important component of what we do. And it should be comfortable.

A number of the names that were read earlier that people who didn't come up were high school kids. They had originally decided they wanted to speak, and I'm not exactly sure why they left. I think they will be coming back this evening. I encouraged them to do so.

But I think that this format is intimidating. I think it is true, and I think that the young people have a very important thing to say, and I'm concerned that their voice doesn't get heard.

I know there are going to be a number of them coming this evening, and I really hope that the Department of Energy can be flexible at that time because they can't stay real long, and I wanted to put that on the record to try to work with them as best as we can.

2 A couple other comments about the public process. I agree also there should have been a hearing in every at least major city along the transportation corridors. The only reason I can see why we wouldn't be able to do that is we don't know what the transportation corridors are. Another whole problem with the process which should have been clearly defined.

I have also understood it is very expensive and that it might be too costly to hold these hearings, and in my opinion, Citizen Alert, this could have been incorporated into the budget from the very beginning. You should have known this was a public process of a project of this scope.

This is an enormous project. And therefore, it should encompass the entire country as much as possible. And that should have been budgeted in. My gosh, we can spend billions on studying Yucca Mountain. We can spend a little bit on the public process.

3... Also I wanted to also point out that I had ordered a CD ROM of the DEIS quite a while ago, and much to my surprise, I was unable to print anything out from it. It's read only from the computer screen. That to me also does not help with the public process. How many people are going to sit down in front of the computer screen and read section by section and not allowed to print any of it?

I did submit a comment, and the response I got was that that was unfortunate, but that's basically

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3 cont. it. So my further comment is as it is unfortunate and can we do something about it. I'd like to see something more acceptable that way.

4 Also I would also like to point out that a number of groups had to lobby in order to get St. Louis even added to the hearings. That was originally not part of one of the locations. I'm not exactly sure why Atlanta was added, but again, there were a number of locations that we had to lobby to get happen.

5 As well as the six month comment period. We're glad that it is six months. We're glad the Department of Energy extended it. We don't even know why they originally talked about 90 days. It was way too short, and quite frankly, we find six months is also too short considering the scope of this project. But we're happy at least it got extended.

Those are all the comments I'd like to make for now. I think the public process is really at the heart of what we need to be doing here, and I want to make sure that -- I'd like to see that we can do whatever is necessary to accommodate people that are coming and want to speak. Thank you.