

PUBLIC STATEMENT OF RYAN MADURA

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MR. MADURA: I'd like to follow up on the middle schoolers' enthusiasm.

MR. LAWSON: Ryan, could I just interrupt? Could you give your name also for the court reporter?

MR. MADURA: I'm Ryan Madura from Sparks High School. This is my first public hearing. And I'm getting really interested finding out what's really going on in Nevada.

Now I'm kind of disappointed, though. Looking in the newspaper, seeing Seattle protests, thousands and thousands of people protested. I look here, less than a hundred people show up. And we should be -- we're fighting for our lives here. We're fighting for our jobs. So what we need to do is look at our community, go talk to our friends, get everyone interested in this. All we got to do is give them what's going on.

I came up here, I wrote a speech. I wrote what I believed, what I saw was wrong with the Yucca Mountain project. I wrote what I believed because I didn't find anything negative. I looked through the Environmental Impact Statement, I couldn't find anything negative.

Now there's something negative in everything. You are not going to find anything that's totally positive. But we're not given the negative aspects. They do not allow us to have the negative aspects because they are afraid we're going to ruin their program.

So I get up here, I'm trying to voice my opinion. But it's hard to do because I don't have all the facts.

Now what we need to do is look into this thoroughly, read the Impact Statement that has all aspects, that shows us exactly what's going on positive or negative, instead of what's good about it.

There may be good aspects. But I can't judge that because I don't see the negative aspects.

Overall, our opinion counts. And to achieve someone's opinion they need to know both sides. We're not given both sides.

The DOE comes in here and says, this is the spot we're going to be. This is the spot that we're going to hold this

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Fifteen years ago Nevada was a small state unable to vote. Now we do not have a vote. We're not allowed to vote. Instead, Congress tells us where we're going to have this. We don't make this nuclear waste, but because of Congress we have to take it.

They say it's not permanent yet. They don't know if they are going to put it there or not. As it looks, they show us that it's the perfect spot. Nothing is wrong with it.

They know there's stuff wrong with it. The earthquakes, volcanic eruptions. They see this, but they don't show us. Because they want us to think there is nothing wrong.

Now before this goes through, I think we should have an Environmental Impact Statement that gives us both sides so we know what's really going on.] Thank you.