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PUBLIC STATEMENT OF HEIDI BLACKEYE

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MS. BLACKEYE: Okay. My name is Heidi Blackeye, and I'm Western Shoshone. I used to work for Citizen Alert Native American program, and I was their community organizer, and I worked on nuclear issues.

We fought the dump back in the '90s. Actually we have been fighting it since it started. But we have gotten scientific information that the casks are not movable if they are safe. If they are going to be safe, then you can't really move them, because it would be too heavy to move them. And we have had scientists that have worked for the Department of Energy. One of them was Leo -- I can't pronounce his last name. But I think he's Jewish.

Anyway, just to make a long story short, we're against the dump. I'm as an individual now, I don't work for Citizen Alert Native American program any more. I was going back to school and took a sabbatical off from working for them. But I have rallied for support in Elko and passed out fliers of information to let people know to come here.

1... [There's a lot of people that don't know what's going on. They don't know what to do. They don't have enough information to say, okay, it's okay for you to transport this nuclear waste through Elko, through Duckwater, through one of the routes.] That's one of the routes on Interstate 50. And the reason why that one is chosen, that probably will be the political conflict, is that there's small populations that live in those areas, and [it's easier to rely on their ignorance and to win that support of people that don't know that it's good for them or what's not good for them.]

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(cont'd.)

2 [So anyway, I'm against the dump at Yucca Mountain as well.] I know a lot about that. I'm a professional researcher, and I have studied both sides of the information.

3 [And what I do know is that the waste is safe where it is right now. They have the space and the technology to keep it where it is. And until they do find a safer way to carry it somewhere and to store it, and so I oppose all the radioactive waste transportation routes.] We have a map of that, and [I'm also against Yucca Mountain.

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4 cont.

There's 37 earthquake faults that it lies on. I knew that. And one of the Department -- what is his name? -- Arjun Makeajani, he worked for the Department of Energy in the '70s, and he's a physicist, and now he runs his own group in Washington, D.C., and also works with us and has given us scientific data that lets us know that because of the earthquake faults, each year the earthquake faults, there is a part of the earth that keeps separating and moving outward, and that was information that was shoved under the carpet by the Department of Energy back in 1989, around there, and we continue to work with this man, and he has written a book about the nuclear waste as well; and because of the politics we have lost, and

5 Department of Energy moves in where it's not even their land.

Nevada is not even a state legally because of the treaty of 1863. Now Nevada became a state, they said Nevada became a state when the mining law. So they used the mining law against that as 1872. They keep that mining law so you can go in and make a mining claim, and then you can go in and dig your gold and do whatever else you want to do with a mining claim for a dollar 25. I think it's a little more than that right now.

6 But it's still the treaty needs to be honored. This is not your land to do this. It's the Western Shoshone's land. Whether you like it or not. And it's wrong for what you're doing because you have the information and the technology to keep all citizens safe and not to subject 10,000 just to save 20,000. Because you did that back in the 50's when you decided to affect all the Indian reservations, when the wind was blowing a certain way, and the sparsely populated areas, which were the Indian reservations, and the Indian reservations now, there's people with leukemia, and leukemia has been diagnosed to be caused by the nuclear fallout.

Anyway, I think I have said enough and made my point clear. There is a lot of information backing us up. Even though there is not a lot people of here, it's because of their ignorance and because they are afraid, and when you don't know about something, you'd rather think it best to just leave it alone and not say nothing about it.

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But I'm here speaking for the people that don't know anything about it. If they knew what I know now, they'd be frightened, and they would have spent all their time and money just to get here. Okay.

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