

RECEIVED

DEC 09 1999

PUBLIC STATEMENT OF RON RANKIN

EIS000631

MR. RANKIN: Good evening. My name is Ronald Rankin, Chairman of the Eureka County Planning Commission.

Chairman Goicoechea hit most of the highlights. I will hit on points that the Planning Commission has a concern here.

1 [Over the years Eureka County has granted or approved numerous parcel maps through this particular rail corridor, some of the most heavily parceled areas in the county. Almost virtually all these parcels are sold to either people that are living on them or people that plan to retire here. This thing, should this Beowawe to Yucca Mountain route be selected, it would devastate these people.

Also with this rail line crossing through the valley, the numerous access roads that are here now, obviously, it wouldn't be financially able to -- you wouldn't be able to financially build all the crossings, nor would they be safe to have that many crossings. So many of these lands would be locked out, unavailable for access, it would be considered to be almost a takings.]

2 [Also with the stigma of this rail line going through here hauling what it's hauling, the county has expended millions of dollars for infrastructure in the Crescent Valley area. If the people that are living here now or the people that speculate to live here felt the stigma, they may move out and leave the county holding all these millions of dollars of infrastructure with nobody to use them.]

3 And another thing with this being the second populace area of the county, [since it is such a rural and isolated area, the response time for an emergency team to come in, should there be an accident, a great deal -- a fire department wants to be there in just a few minutes. This stuff is much more dangerous than a fire. And where are they going to come from?]

And that pretty well closes out the Planning Commission's views here. Our Chairman Goicoechea covered most of the other hot topics. Thank you.

(d)