

JAN 11 2000

D.O.E. LAS VEGAS PUBLIC MEETING JAN. 11, 2000 SAWYER BUILDING

1 Every author I could find in SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, THE BULLETIN OF THE ATOMIC SCIENTISTS and SCIENCE is vehemently opposed to the DOE's plan for the Yucca Mountain Nuclear Repository. 2 The State of Nevada Agency for Nuclear Waste has submitted written reports presenting more than adequate scientific data, according to the DOE guidelines, for them to require that Yucca Mountain be disqualified as a repository site. Yet the DOE continues to push the Yucca Mountain project. Worthiness of AEC/DOE activities changed greatly in the years following World War II.

3 Per Len Acklund's MAKING A REAL KILLING At a December '87 congressional hearing Mike Synar, Democrat from Oklahoma, said what occurred at Rocky Flats "was a dramatic expose of how the system really works: Inadequate controls, limited accountability, and an attitude of indifference on the part of the government and contractor officials. Quite simply, the DOE is not in control of its weapons complex. If the DOE cannot run these facilities honestly, what assurance can we give the American public that you can run them safely?" Energy Secretary James Watkins, who is a distinguished former admiral and submarine commander, found the DOE lacked a strict chain of command. December '89 he told a reporter that turning around the "management malaise and ineptness" at the DOE was a hundred times more difficult than anything he had previously attempted." David Albright, a physicist working on a Colorado Health Dept. study said of the DOE "they insisted that almost everything was classified... Everything was adversarial, hostile... You had this... culture of not caring about safety infractions."

June '89 the FBI raided Rocky Flats, the DOE weapons producing plant managed by Rockwell. Rockwell was charged with illegal dumping of hazardous substances and the knowing contamination of nearby streams. Rockwell plea-bargained criminal charges.

President Clinton appointed Hazel O'Leary Energy Secretary and May '93 she ordered DOE offices to declassify Cold War documents. 4 Per SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN May '96 The DOE now admits that enormous amounts of the highly radioactive liquids and solids were pumped or dumped into the ground and estimates that throughout all the weapons complexes, billions of cubic meters of soil, groundwater and surface water are contaminated.

Charges for criminal violations should be brought against the DOE/AEC for past, present and planned future damage of the highest order to the United States and its injured citizens - damage that has been deadly and that may last for thousands of years.

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