Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste

Comment Sheet

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FEB 03 2000

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I request that these comments be made a part of the official record.

Inadequate evaluation of uncertainties.

1 • The DEIS is full of imprecise language like "very unlikely", "sufficient quantity", "probably would", etc. How are we to make a sound decision on a project of enormous scope as Yucca Mountain when we can't be certain of the science contained within.

2 • All of the "understanding" of how the repository will function in the future is based on computer models, so the long-term impacts are based on arguably incomplete data fed into largely untested models. Since many of these models represent chaotic systems there can be little to no guesswork, otherwise the calculated results (long-term impacts) could bear no resemblance to reality.

3 • Why is it that the DOE doesn't trust computer models for nuclear weapons testing, but does for the Yucca Mountain Project? Yucca Mountain performance in the far future is at least as complex as weapons design.

Please note: For your comment(s) to be considered in the Final Environmental Impact Statement, your comment(s) need to be received by the Department of Energy by February 9, 2000. To the extent practicable the Department will consider comments received after February 9.