



# CITY OF MESQUITE FIRE DEPT.

January 21, 2000

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FEB 11 2000

Ms. Wendy R. Dixon, EIS Project Manager  
 M/S 010  
 U. S. Department of Energy  
 Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management  
 Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office  
 P. O. Box 30307  
 Las Vegas, NV 89036-0307

RE: DOE Draft Environmental Impact Statement for High Level and Spent Fuel Disposal

Dear Ms. Dixon:

1 [The City of Mesquite, Nevada wants to go on record that it opposes transportation of High Level Waste and Spent Fuel through the City via Interstate 15.

The opposition is based on the fact that transport exposes this community to an undetermined risk.

The City of Mesquite has special populations to consider that have not been evaluated in the draft statement. We have 2 schools (an Elementary and High School), 5 major hotel casino's (2500 rooms), a nursing home and most of the residential area's within  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile of the proposed route.

2 [We have no emergency response plan, equipment or training to deal with any level of nuclear accident. The closest hospital is 35 mile away in St. George, Utah who is not equipped nor trained to deal with this risk.

Clark County provides Hazardous Materials Response from Las Vegas, Nevada 85 miles south. The response time exceeds one and half-hours. This would also be true for Department of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency, or Public Health response.

3 [This city is the fastest growing city in the United States with a growth rate of over 400%.

It is estimated that we will have a population of influence within the next 10 years of approximately 80,000.

The draft statement has not addressed the fiscal impact to the city or it's businesses.

We suggest that the Environmental Draft Statement be rejected on the basis of incomplete or outdated data and assumptions that do not include the City of Mesquite.  

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Meacham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and "M".

Ken Meacham  
Fire Chief