

RECEIVED

LORI BRESNAN

JAN 20 2000

1 MS. BRESNAN: My name is Lori Bresnan. I'm a citizen of Ballwin in west St. Louis County. I'm concerned with safety, the general safety, accidents and increased vulnerability of the material to the affects of sabotage. These shipments are slated to go through highly-populated areas for long stretches. Both rails and highways here often run along the Meramec River and over the creeks that feed it. The lower Meramec is the primary source of water for south St. Louis County and the water that flows into the Mississippi which supplies water to cities and farms along its path to the gulf. The down-playing of risk by accident, theft or terrorism by the DOE is very disturbing. Accidents and sabotage do happen and will. We live here in St. Louis in the shadow of the Manhattan Project, Agent Orange and the entire legacy of our history with radiation and dioxin.

Statistics on how small the chance of disaster are great. I myself enjoy mathematical exercises and statistics. I am also aware of how the suggestiveness of the numbers plugged into the equation have a huge effect on the outcome. We then are asked to trust this equation and apply it to reality. The reality is that a chance is a chance and it's often much greater than the numbers suggest. With all due respect, even extremely low probabilities and low exposure risks means very little to those who are affected. To those who live with the pain and the inability to conceive children, bring a pregnancy to term, to those who children are born with disabilities and deformities or who have loved ones that they have watched suffer and die from the effects of radiation and dioxin here, minimal risk rings empty.

We've heard assurances as good as yours and better for generations and we here have suffered their failings. I stand skeptical and vehemently opposed to the proposed Yucca Mountain plan.