Bill Richardson
US Department of Energy
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1... I recently became aware of the federal government's plan to send high-level nuclear waste to Yucca Mountain, Nevada. I adamently oppose this project for safety, ecological, and ethical reasons.

2 One problem with the proposed disposal plan is an issue of transport. Waste designated for Yucca Mountain will be moving on US highways and train routes through the communities of more than 50 million Americans. This poses a huge public health risk. Even at a conservative rate of one accident per 343 shipments (as DOE studies project), 268 accidents will occur over the next 30 years as 90,000 shipments of nuclear waste make their way to Yucca Mounitan.

3 Further, Yucca Mountain lies within land guaranteed to the Western Shoshone Nation by US Treaty. For the Department of Energy to remain on Newe Sogobia is a violation of treaty and an illegal action. A responsible government would uphold the treaty and restore the Shoshone's sacred land.

4 Yucca Mountain is geologically unstable. Over the last 20 years, more than 621 earthquakes have been recorded in the area, at a magnitude of 2.5 or higher. An earthquake at Yucca Mountain could cause groundwater to be contaminated by dangerous amounts of plutonium. This risk is unacceptable to the Shoshone Nation, who already suffer from widespread cancer, leukemia, and other diseases because of fallout from more than 600 atomic explosions in their territory.

1 cont. This project is completely unacceptable. I am sure that American taxpayers do not want their money to be used to contaminate the environment and exploit the Shoshone Nation. I urge you to reconsider the project and find a viable alternative.

I realize that electric utilities bombard Congress with enough money to encourage pro-nuclear law, but taxpayers can refuse to take financial responsibility for the problems of waste that these companies have created for thirty years. Please consider the cries of the Shoshone and concerned

Americans as you ponder the next move at Yucca Mountain.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Sarah Broderick

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PS Please help stop this display of anti-American values.

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