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JAN 11 2000

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ALICE FESSENDEN

1 MS: FESSENDEN: I have a resolution by the City of Mesquite that I've been requested to read. I'm a delegate from Mesquite to the Clark County Nuclear Waste Steering Committee. Prior to reading this very brief -- I'll be happy to read you a very brief document. I need to first read to you a letter that addresses one of the nuclear -- the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission documents. This letter was dated June 9th of '99 from our city.

On page 27 of our February 1999 document NUREG- 1437, volume 1, addendum 1, you state route 1 -- this is for bringing the nuclear waste into Nevada. Quoting from I-15 northeast of Las Vegas through the Spaghetti Bowl, you state in the detail for that item, quote: "From Overton north I-15, X" -- I don't know what that is. "x93 Nevada to S U95 local Nevada," end quote.

This language leads me to believe that you may be confused as to the route of I-15 from the Arizona border south to Las Vegas, Nevada. I think that this is important because we've heard a lot of talk here today about the infallibility of these people. Overton, Nevada is not located on I-15. Now this is from their document that they think Overton is on I-15 with a map. It is ten miles off of Interstate 15 at exit 93 on Highway 169. While Highway 169 does eventually connect Overton to Las Vegas along Lake Mead, it is very narrow and a curvy two-lane road with many elevations and depressions. I am confident you're not considering Highway 169 as part of your route since it would be a disaster waiting to happen for the transportation of nuclear waste and materials. I must assume that you have made an error about the placement of Overton on the proposed route.

2 I also assume that you are not aware that the City of Mesquite is Nevada's entry community on north Interstate 15. The City of Mesquite, Nevada is located at the northernmost Nevada portion of Interstate 15, some eighty miles to the north of Las Vegas. It is a thriving city of over 14,000 residents. It is projected that the City of Mesquite will grow to at least 25,000 in the next three years.

Please be advised the City of Mesquite hereby notifies you that it exists and it must be included in your consideration of the proposed route of nuclear waste and materials if it's proposed that the nuclear waste and materials route would travel on I -- Interstate 15 through the City of Mesquite. By the way, the City of Mesquite has been an incorporated city since 1984.

3 Okay. Moving on, then, here is what our city put forth as resolution. I'll give you a copy of this. A resolution of the City of Mesquite, Nevada regarding transportation of nuclear waste, radioactivity, material and nuclear spent fuel through the City of Mesquite.

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Whereas the United States Department of Energy has attempted for over two decades to store nuclear waste, radioactive material and nuclear spent fuel in the State of Nevada at Yucca Mountain which is located less than a hundred miles north of Las Vegas, Nevada; and whereas if the Department of Energy ultimately prevails in its efforts to make Yucca Mountain a nuclear storage facility, one likely route for the transportation of nuclear waste, radioactive material and nuclear spent fuel on its way to Yucca Mountain per documents prepared by the Department of Energy would be on Interstate 15 through the City of Mesquite.

And whereas if the route for the transportation of nuclear waste, radioactive material and nuclear spent fuel does go through the City of Mesquite via Interstate 15, that route will also be through the Virgin River Gorge via Interstate 15, which is in the State of Arizona and only ten miles north of the City of Mesquite.

And whereas the path of Interstate 15 through the Virgin River Gorge is extremely narrow passage, barely wide enough to accommodate the lanes of Interstate 15 at several points; and whereas Interstate 15 is a

major traffic artery through Utah, Arizona, Nevada and California, a spill of nuclear waste, radioactive material and nuclear spent fuel in the Virgin River Gorge on Interstate 15 could have catastrophic effects on the environment of the Virgin River which travels through the Virgin River Gorge along Interstate 15 and on interstate travel and commerce perhaps for decades.

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And whereas the Virgin River may be the home of certain endangered species of fish, other wildlife and fauna; and whereas the City of Mesquite is the fastest growing community in the United States of America by percentage of growth and currently is home to 15,000 residents and will double in size within the next four years if the current growth rate continues as is expected.

And whereas the City of Mesquite has experienced 700 million dollars in new home construction in the past decade as has become a favorite residential destination for golf enthusiasts and senior citizens; and whereas if an accident occurred on Interstate 15 at Nevada exit 122 which caused Pioneer Boulevard to be blocked at Interstate 15, an accident such as occurred in Kingman, Arizona, approximately 7,000 citizens of Mesquite will be stranded for an indefinite period of time since Pioneer Boulevard is the only road from Interstate 15 and the City of Mesquite to approximately 7,000 residents living above Pioneer Boulevard.

And whereas Interstate 15 goes through the center of the population of the City of Mesquite and many businesses and homes are adjacent or in close proximity to Interstate 15; and whereas the undeclared transportation routes planned by the Department of Energy are of particular concern to the City of Mesquite since the Department of Energy does not even acknowledge the existence of the City of Mesquite on its official maps of the area.

And whereas Nuclear Regulatory Commission Regulation 14367 dated February of 1999 does not acknowledge or recognize the City of Mesquite in its discussion of a proposed route through our city, and the stated proposed route mistakenly states it would go through the Township of Overton Nevada, which is over ten miles off of Interstate 15 and a rural farm community on an extremely dangerous and narrow road system.

And whereas the actions of the Department of Energy to date show a complete ignorance of the location of the City of Mesquite and a total lack of concern about what an accident involving the spilling of nuclear waste, so forth would have on the City of Mesquite.

Now therefore the Mesquite City Council declares by resolution the following: One -- there are three of these. One, Mesquite opposes the establishment of a storage facility at Yucca Mountain; two, the City of Mesquite opposes transportation of this waste through Virgin River Gorge or the City of Mesquite; and three, the City of Mesquite resolves to resist the storage of nuclear, so forth at Yucca Mountain and the transportation of the same through the State of Nevada generally and the City of Mesquite specifically and to lend its support toward efforts to oppose such projects by all lawful means.

So I would just like to say in closing that somewhere along the line, I have understood that the proposed route through Apex would pass 3,500 hotel rooms, and I'm here to tell you that 3,000 of those rooms -- those hotels rooms are in Mesquite and they're just within a few yards of the route. Thank you.