

FEB 22 2000

MS. MAYES: My name is Susan Mayes, and I am a member of the San Bernardino County Green Party. And as a Green, I am totally appalled at the audacity of the federal government to try to pull the wool over our eyes as far as transporting. And it looks like the majority of the nuclear waste would be coming from parts east.

It will be crossing our country all the way across, 3,000 miles, endangering untold million of people on some of our railways -- that are not safe, even for passenger trains, let alone freight, and freight of this magnitude and weight.

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The routes going through San Bernardino and Riverside counties, Inyo County -- I lived in Inyo County for two years, and I can attest to what was described about Route 127 as being a paved-over wagon trail, as that is exactly what it is. I have driven that many times. It is a two-lane road, definitely not made for heavy trucks of any stretch of the imagination, yet I do know they pass over it.

2

I do know toxic waste goes through Shoshone, and I was told just a few months ago a truck was stopped in Shoshone that was leaking, and it was -- I don't know how many hours before they finally got it cleaned up because Shoshone is so far -- it's 60 miles from Baker, and Baker isn't much to talk about. 60 miles from Death Valley, which has no services that could help for that.

So the services would have to come from either Barstow or Lone Pine. Again, over a hundred miles each way.

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If a nuclear accident happened, if something happened on that stretch of highway, who would know about it? It's so -- it is not traveled that extensively, except maybe when they have the dune races out at Dumont Dunes.

It is dangerous. It crosses sacred Indian land. Any time the government decides that it's just empty land and it's just a few people out there, it smacks of environmental racism. Poor people, people of color, are always the ones who get impacted with this the most. This cannot be allowed.

It's dangerous, and again I cannot emphasize more than has already been said, coming through Cajon Pass, an accident there is catastrophic. An accident coming through Los Angeles between Orange County and San Bernardino, you can hardly tell where one city stops and the other one begins. Anything through there -- and how many times do you see or hear of accidents that involve big-rig trucks? For whatever reason, somebody cuts it off, some little foreign car cuts it off, or just traveling a bit too fast and losing control on a wet highway.

Just a few days there was an ARCO truck that overturned on the 10 Freeway, backed up traffic for miles, literally for miles. Luckily, I was going the other way. I didn't have to get stuck on it. But I can tell you that people that were stuck coming east on Highway 10 were not happy campers about this.

3

I have heard -- this is something that I heard -- that the government proposes that the waste be transported in unmarked vehicles, so that saboteurs couldn't know what is being transported.

Well, if the saboteurs don't know, how can emergency people know what's being transported? If this is true -- boy, our tax dollars at work, folks.

So I really urge you -- and I really would like to know why these two people disappeared that were here earlier today. Oh, there they are, right there, okay.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: They have not disappeared.

MS. MAYES: Oh, hello. All right. I just didn't see you up here. So I didn't know where you were.

4 | So anyway, I really feel that this is not a good idea; that Yucca Mountain is not a good repository. There
are active faults underneath that mountain which makes it so alive -- and which is the snake, I believe,
that brings the water. But in technological terms, some people would say oh, well, it's the active fault
system underneath the mountain. |

5 | Again, folks, this is not a good place. And the travel distance and the round-about routes that they would
take just so that they could circumvent Las Vegas -- because Las Vegas doesn't want it there, and Clark
County doesn't want it there. Does Nye County want it there? I don't think so. Inyo County doesn't want
it; San Bernardino County I have heard doesn't want it. San Bernardino County doesn't want it. |

Gee, folks. Get the message. Does Arizona want it? Does New Mexico want it? Does Kansas want it?
Have you heard from them, the routes go right through there.

6 | Please, please reconsider. | The best thing to do with this nuclear waste is to keep it where it is and not
make anymore. We don't need it. We have got other technology. We can create energy from the sun and
from other -- and from other sources other than nuclear. It's a disaster. |

[APPLAUSE.]

MR. SKIPPER: Thank you.

FACILITATOR LAWSON: The next speaker is Susan Lien, followed by Jay Lindberg and John Hadder.