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MICHAEL JOHNSON: I'm going to do this the right way. You guys don't need to see nothing but my head anyway. Michael Johnson. My friends call me Homer. I'm an American activist and a citizen of this country. I've moved around the country quite frequently. I'm a carpenter with the carpenter union here in Las Vegas.

I moved here in 1989. At the time they were still doing the below ground tests at the Test Site. And two years ago we tried to organize during the Centennial, we tried to organize a Labor Day parade, and I started investigating the carpenters, the elderly carpenters in this local if they would like to participate in the parade. I was informed there were five carpenters, retired carpenters that actually worked at the Test Site still alive at that time.

I heard one gentleman say that he worked in a nuclear regulatory area, they had little beepers on them. My dad worked in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He came home every day with that thing glowing, glowing not because it was an accident, because that is the normal level. They put those monitors on you to make sure you don't receive too much dosage during your stay at that facility, whether you're a construction worker, whether you're one of the members of the facility itself, you have to wear that beeper.

Now, what is going on is that the country needs the energy. We understand that. We really do understand that. I go home to my air conditioner every day and thank God for it, but you have to understand that you're ruining the environment.

1 And this is all about the shipment of nuclear waste, but it doesn't stop there. You've got a facility built that's going to house nuclear waste for 10,000 years. You don't think you're going to get biological hazardous waste? You don't think you're going to get chemical waste stored there? It scares me to death.

You got a truck to ship the nuclear waste is supposed to be bullet proof. What about all the diseases they've been working on since the 1930s that they planned on using in wars? What about those diseases? They're going to put them in Yucca Mountain. You can believe it or you can deny it. I know it's going to happen.

I was in the navy. I served four years in the navy. And at one time we were on an air detail. We were counted to go all over the country, wherever we were needed for whatever reason. So they gave us training in nuclear biological chemical warfare training -- eight-week course. Seven weeks of that course was learning how to clean up the mess of it. Seven weeks of that course was learning how to clean up the mess that that war would leave. Seven weeks.

I thought I had it down. I really did. I passed their course. I thought this is great. Then they put me on a practice maneuver, and I can't describe to you. I knew it was a maneuver. I knew it was practice. They put us on a plane. They flew around in a circle. We landed on another naval base, and the carnage was there. They set it up to where it looked like a real nuclear accident.

And they had some of the best actors I've ever seen because I thought it was real. It scared the bejesus out of me. They had some men laying on the ground with actual metal looked like it had been melted into them. And that's what happens in nuclear accidents. You're talking about a lot of degrees, a lot of heat.

I'm not worried about the environment just in this area. I'm worried about all the trucks coming from all across the country going through little rural communities, not going through Las Vegas where we have brand new bridges and intersections. We're talking about going through little towns where the trucks still have to stop at railroad crossings and look both ways.

I've been across the country, I know. Not everybody stays on the interstate. But these trucks aren't going to be rolling just on those interstates. But you think it's not happening, it's happening right now. So thank God that they're going to come up with a truck that's going to be safe, because for years from every naval port around this country to the middle of the country it has been shipped, and it's stored there, and that's where it's going to come from back to here.

I'd like to thank everybody for coming out. And, you know, a lot of you have heard me make comments. And God bless America. That's all I can say. You have the opportunity to come here and speak your mind. Don't leave here tonight and forget. Go home and tell your children you did what you did. Go home and tell your neighbors you did what you did. Be proud that you came here and spoke out.  

Thank you.