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JUL 11 2001

Dr. Jane R. Summerson, EIS Document Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
P.O. Box 30307
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0307

Re: Yucca Mountain Project

1 After reviewing information concerning the Yucca Mountain site for permanent disposal of nuclear waste, I believe it is unsuitable for many reasons; uncertainties for long-term performance and events for the next tens of thousands of years; the close proximity to existing earthquake faults; the probability of a severe earthquake; global warming causing extreme changes in weather patterns; deserts changing to lakes (heavy rainfall in Arizona this year); rising water-table; Murphy's Law that anything that can happen will happen; etc.

2 Radioactive waste should not be stored temporarily prior to approval of a permanent disposal site. Should an accident or sabotage occur, concentrating all the waste together at a temporary location will increase the danger to catastrophic proportions. The western states would be covered with radioactive contamination first, and it would spread across the midwest and to the east coast. The entire United States
3 would be devastated. It would be safer to leave the waste scattered where it is presently stored. Possibly a better permanent site could be found, closer to the east coast.
4 Maybe Greenland. Why should taxpayers have to bail out the
5 utility companies? If they can't find a suitable disposal site they should stop generating nuclear waste.

This is an ideal time to switch to conservation and alternative renewable energy that is non-polluting. Other countries are already doing this. I am personally using solar and renewable energy and have cut my energy usage by 75%.

Sincerely,

Walter Henze Mildred Henze

Walter and Mildred Henze