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Carol Hanlon  
S&ER Products Manager  
U. S. Department of Energy  
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office  
P.O. Box 30307 M/S 025  
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0707

Dear Madam:

As a nuclear professional with over thirty-five years of experience, I strongly support the activation of the Yucca Mountain Site for use as the Nation's high-level radioactive waste repository. Having followed the progress of the scientific studies of this Site for almost two decades, my considered opinion is that we need to get on with this important program. At some point, the weight of years of scientific research into hydrology, geology, seismology, remote handling and much more must overcome inertia and unreasoned pessimism.

Obviously, it is much more sensible to gather nuclear power plant fuel rods and high level government waste in a single location under dedicated care than to have this material spread at many sites throughout the country. The specially engineered containers and combination of engineered and natural barriers will provide the necessary environmental protection.

The San Onofre nuclear power plant provides a significant portion of the electrical energy consumed here in San Diego County. During the California energy crisis this spring, one unit was off line for refueling. Upon restarting the 1080Mwe unit, the energy crisis was greatly diminished, illustrating the importance of supporting the nuclear option. Consumers of electricity have been paying into the Nuclear Waste Fund for many years in order to pay for the safe storage of the fuel. The Department of Energy must now meet its obligation to accept fuel.

Please convey my strong support for the Yucca Mountain repository to Secretary Abraham.

Sincerely,



Eugene Randolph Hager  
Professional Engineer