

0106

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7 MS. TILGES: Did it again. Made the podium
8 way too high for me. Are there a stack of EISs I can
9 stand on, Abe? I forgot to bring my own. Yours all
10 look so pretty and unopened. My name is Kalynda
11 Tilges. And I'm not going to stand behind the podium,
12 because not only would you not be able to see me, but I
13 wouldn't be able to see you.

14 I am the Nuclear Issues Coordinator for
15 Citizen Alert in Las Vegas. I'm also a 30-odd year
16 resident of Nevada as a whole, and 22-year resident of
17 Las Vegas. I'm a mother, and I'm a grandmother. All
18 my children were born in Las Vegas. My grandchild was
19 born there.

20 I've lived all over the country. I have
21 lived all over the world, and I never found a finer
22 place than the desert in this state to live, and I
23 don't plan on going anywhere. I plan on sending you
24 packing.

25 There's a lot of different things that were

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1 said tonight. It was interesting. I made some notes.
2 There was a trucking company that Mr. Perna was talking

3 about, that dumped that load of missiles. That was a
4 Tri-state Trucking Company. That was the same company
5 that took a wrong turn taking transuranic waste to WIPP
6 in New Mexico. Three tracking systems, including the
7 satellite system, failed. He was 27 miles toward
8 Albuquerque when a state trooper stopped him and
9 pointed him in the right direction.

10 Lot of different things I've heard tonight
11 that just don't seem to make sense. We need jobs.
12 Well, I say sound science can bring jobs. Sustainable
13 alternative renewables can bring jobs. And here's a
14 good one. We've got on-site storage in casks that the
15 nuclear regulatory says are safe to a minimum of 75 to
16 100 years. They're not perfect. There are people --
17 you want to talk about NIMBY, not in my backyard?
18 Let's talk about all the people back East who wanted it
19 the hell out of there and want to ship it here, that's
20 NIMBY. Okay?

21 There's a reason they don't want it there.
22 Because it's unsafe. I say let's save some money and
23 save some lives and save a whole lot of BS, start
24 putting some money into making that on-site drag house
25 storage a little safer, and if these casks they plan on

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1 storing in Yucca Mountain are so good, let's put it in
2 in there and leave it where it's at. Yucca Mountain
3 will not solve the nuclear waste problem. You will
4 simply have one more nuclear site. And I don't know
5 about the second repository we're talking about,
6 because I've seen potential plans for putting up to
7 150,000 tons of nuclear waste in Yucca Mountain.

8 So not only will you have every single
9 nuclear plant that's producing nuclear power and
10 nuclear waste, 70 around the country, as targets, you
11 have every moving vehicle of nuclear waste as a target,
12 plus Yucca Mountain. Personally, I think we've been a
13 sacrifice zone long enough, and my children's lives are
14 not for sale for jobs. And they're not expendable, and
15 I don't know of anyone who's children's lives are for
16 sale or expendable.

17 We can have jobs. And we can still have a
18 planet for our children to be able to use that college
19 education on, by using other forms of science.

20 Speaking of sound science, I would really
21 like for someone to teach the DOE what the meaning of
22 that is. I actually know a lot of high school students

23 who do do that. When their head scientist gets up and
24 tells a technical review board that when they do a lab
25 experiment or test on the Yucca Mountain Project and
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1 they get the result they expect the first time, they
2 don't go back and test again.

3 That drops jaws of high school science
4 students all over the place. Anyone here who's taken
5 high school, even grade school science, knows that you
6 go back and retest, and retest, and retest, to make
7 sure you get those results.

8 Now I understand that the Department of
9 Energy is not responsible for picking Yucca Mountain.
10 That falls on Congress. But I sure would have a lot
11 more respect for you guys if you'd go back to the
12 Department of Energy and tell the truth and tell them
13 this project won't work.

14 What do we do next? Because right now, I
15 have to tell you, I was raised in an Air Force family.
16 Any time on base, 5:00, taps sounded, you stood there
17 with your hand over your heart. Facing in the
18 direction of where the flag was being lowered. And you
19 believed in your country. Now I'm sorry to say I work

20 this hard at what I do, because I'm afraid of our
21 government. I'd really like to be able to trust you,
22 but your actions and your science has showed me I
23 can't. How long do I have?

24 MODERATOR BROWN: About one minute.

25 MS. TILGES: One minute?

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1 MODERATOR BROWN: Yeah.

2 MS. TILGES: I just have to say that for this
3 to be the absolute last hearings on the Yucca Mountain
4 process is just despicable and unimaginable. For all
5 the reasons, the final EIS, the final science, the real
6 guidelines, the -- or maybe even the guidelines that
7 are actually legally on the books. Go figure, who
8 would think of that?

9 But I want people to understand, people who
10 say this project is inevitable, it's not. It was
11 supposed to open in 1998, and we're still battling over
12 it. We can absolutely stop this thing.

13 The other thing that I have to say is for
14 people who want to negotiate for benefits, thinks that
15 Yucca Mountain's going to bring jobs or that the DOE
16 might actually keep their word, I want you to go and

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17 talk to people who know about what happened in New
18 Mexico. Back on the Citizen Alert table, there are
19 reports done by Clark County, in-depth reports about
20 what happened in New Mexico. How they sold out for \$57
21 million, and then had to take the Department of Energy
22 to court in an 8-year battle to get, to force them to
23 pay, then it took another 7 years to get them to start
24 paying.

25 We can't trust them to hold, to keep their

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1 word. They lied about nuclear testing. They lied
2 about WIPP. They lied about the ground -- they're
3 still lying about the ground water contamination at the
4 test site, and they've been lying about this project
5 all along. And what I've always said is, even though
6 I'm extremely biased against this project, I don't
7 expect any of you to listen me, any more than I expect
8 you to listen to them. I want you to go out and
9 research, read the literature. Think. Ask questions.
10 Does this make sense? And decide for yourself. That's
11 all I'm asking. Thank you.