



FAX 202-586-4403

The Honorable Spencer Abraham  
Secretary of Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Ave. SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Abraham,

I object to the lack of proper, reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing on the DOE's site recommendation of Yucca Mountain for a national high-level nuclear waste repository.

On August 21, 2001, with less than 30 days for any interested persons to read the DOE's more than 370-page long technical report, "Yucca Mountain Preliminary Site Suitability Evaluation", your agency announced it was holding public hearings on the site recommendation of Yucca Mountain in Nevada between September 5<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.

Not only are these hearings provided with totally inadequate notice, but, for persons who will be affected by the requisite transportation of high-level nuclear waste through their hometowns via road and rail, your agency has provided no opportunity to comment on the suitability of the recommendation.

A few meetings in Nevada does not come close to providing an opportunity for public hearing on a project of this magnitude and immense potential danger to those on transportation routes throughout the country.

In addition, it is plain that the notice you provided was defective not only for being absurdly short notice, but for providing notice to meet at a place, canceling that site, then providing another site with an incorrect address.

Moreover, your agency provided that final notice of the meeting at the wrong address on August 31<sup>st</sup>, the beginning of the long Labor Day weekend, less than five days to the meeting including the intervening weekend and holiday.

Finally, it is plain from the notices your agency published in the Federal Register on August 21, 27 and 31, that the public is not clearly placed on notice that these are public hearings on your agency's decision to recommend Yucca Mountain as the site for a national high-level nuclear waste repository.

Persons reading the notice are given the impression that these are merely hearings on the preliminary site suitability evaluation. Even then, your provision of less than thirty days notice from the availability of the 370 page evaluation and the few hearings in Nevada

2