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To: ymp\_sr@ymp.gov  
cc:

Subject: Yucca Mountain

**Part of Records Package / Supplement / Correction**

Dear Ms. Carol Hanlon:

As a long time resident of Illinois and a nuclear engineer, I am writing to urge passage of legislation to get the Yucca Mountain high level waste repository on a more aggressive path. This repository has long been needed and far too long delayed. The events of Sept. 11th further point out the need to provide a more secure storage area for our high level waste than reactor site storage. Yucca Mtn. provides us the opportunity to move the fuel to a more secure environment.

I realize that the siting issues and engineering issues associated with a national repository are not trivial. However, continued storage of the fuel at the reactor sites is far less than optimal. It would be far better to secure the fuel in the arid, desolate area of Yucca Mtn. under a Federal protection program compared to relatively lush country side often next to water supplies throughout our land.

As an engineer, I believe the technology is available to move the fuel into a more secure environment and that we should be pressing forward on this front. Hence, I urge the DOE to proceed on an expedited basis to close the back end of the fuel cycle and provide the long intended, safe and secure high level waste storage facility.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my input.

Ed Armstrong  
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