

Betty Kaplowitz

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Virginia City, Nevada Public Hearing

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13 MS. KAPLOWITZ: Well, I hadn't had a lot of  
14 time to think about this, so I may write something as  
15 well. As you know, we didn't get a lot of notice about  
16 this meeting, as I'm sure you guys know.

17 I know that this report, the preliminary site  
18 report, I just have the summary here, and I know the  
19 report is huge, so I haven't had a chance to really look  
20 at it. I'm definitely opposed to Yucca Mountain as a  
21 waste repository for some of the same reasons Barbara  
22 said. I'm very concerned about transportation, having  
23 read about other accidents with hazardous materials that  
24 have happened en route from the East Coast. There have  
25 been other accidents just, you know, with hazardous

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1 materials from East to West, and so, you know, my concern  
2 about transportation is great, especially now, I suppose  
3 we have another issue to think about in terms of  
4 transportation, possible, who knows, terrorism. I don't  
5 know if that's any more to worry about than just  
6 transportation itself, but that is one thing.

7 The other thing that I have read about is  
8 Yucca Mountain's earthquake faults and other things that

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9 make -- I know it's supposed to be a geologic repository,  
10 and seems to me that that won't function quite right if  
11 there's an earthquake in that area. So I'm concerned  
12 about that a lot. I don't know if that's looked at in  
13 this report. Like I said, I haven't had a chance to look  
14 at it.

15           And I know that the casts -- you do have a  
16 thing on transportation. That's good. I saw something  
17 about the casts, and I think -- where did it go -- from  
18 something I've seen before, the testing that was done, and  
19 I may be wrong, but I think the testing that was done was  
20 computer-generated, and this repository is supposed to  
21 last for like 10,000 years or something, and I have a hard  
22 time with that, given other leaking things over the years.  
23 And my concern about what's under, you know, aquifers,  
24 Amargosa Valley Aquifer is right there, and what happens  
25 if there is leaking from these casts is a great concern.

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1           I also am concerned that the State of  
2 Nevada -- the only nuclear anything in the State of Nevada  
3 has been federal. There are no nuclear power plants in  
4 Nevada. The state itself hasn't, you know, chosen to use  
5 nuclear power. We have a lot of possibilities for wind

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6 and solar here. And soil tests, you know, I know a lot of  
7 people argue it's already contaminated because of the test  
8 site, but a lot of us feel like that was plenty, and we  
9 don't really need any more.

10           And I also do agree with Barbara that since  
11 Nevada doesn't produce the waste from power plants anyway,  
12 why should this be the chosen place for dumping it all?  
13 Although I do not have another solution, I feel strongly  
14 that those who have put forward the idea of nuclear power  
15 did not spend enough time thinking about what to do with  
16 the waste, and now we're kind of stuck with tons of it  
17 without really having a good solution as to what to do.  
18 And that, you know -- I'm not a scientist, so I don't  
19 really have another answer, but I don't think Yucca  
20 Mountain is the right one.