

January 9, 2008

RRR000740

Bob Margison  
2300 Pearl Crest St.  
Las Vegas, Nv. 89134

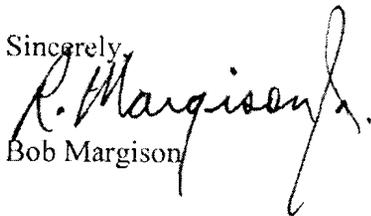
To the Department of Energy,

1 C As a native Nevadan, I agree with Shelly Berkley and many other Nevada citizens that we do not want toxic substances running through our town or buried near our home town Las Vegas. We believe that there are more cons than pros to what will and can happen with this hazardous waste. Some of the cons include exposure to pesticide residues on our crops, mercury in foods such as fish, and even chemical exposures that are produced by industrial plants. Toxic waste can also lead to polluted groundwater, and with the little water we have here in Nevada, we cannot afford to take that chance. We can easily become exposed to these chemicals and pesticides on a daily basis because our bodies need water and food. Hazardous waste has been known to cause cancers, genetic mutations, and birth defects. Toxic chemicals on the other hand, can lead to infertility or even an increase in offspring bodily dysfunctions. As for radioactive waste, radiation exposure or leakage into the atmosphere exposes citizens to issues such as hair loss, damaged nerve cells, reduction of blood platelets, and many types of cancers such as leukemia and lung cancer.

In addition, not only is hazardous waste damaging to citizens health, but as the toxic waste is being transported from the eastern states, it can easily become a concern of danger. There is the possibility of a spill or leak taking place, which is a disaster for any surrounding body of water or land. It can kill many living creatures and pollute the much needed ground water. Leaks also become harmful, and even fatal, when absorbed. Furthermore, as the waste travels through the many weather conditions, some of these conditions can actually cause the waste to become spontaneously combustible, as well as corrode metal containers such as the barrels and storage tanks that it travels in, and even create toxic fumes and gases. And finally, as the toxic waste travels from one side of the United States to the other, this becomes an opportunity for terrorists to ruin what they have been longing to destroy.

As you can see, the choice of deciding to bring and store toxic waste in Yucca Mountain can become very detrimental to many Nevada citizens health. The decision to bring in this toxic waste has become Nevada's most important, current and long term battle. Please take into consideration the importance of keeping Las Vegas and many other Nevada towns safe and clean. 2

Sincerely,

  
Bob Margison