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Department of Energy Extends Hours For Final Yucca Mountain Hearings

Washington, D.C. - The U.S. Department of Energy today announced that it will extend the hearing hours for all three of its final hearings on the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project set for Wednesday, December 12. Hearings, set to begin at 5:00 p.m. and close at 9:00 p.m., will now begin at 1:00 p.m. and will officially close at 9:00 p.m. Locations, listed below, remain unchanged.

The Department has committed to actively seek increased opportunities for public involvement in the consideration of the Yucca Mountain Project as a possible geological repository. Extending the hours allows Nevada citizens more time to register their comments.

Time and locations are as follows:

Las Vegas; Cashman Field Center, Rooms 103-106, 850 Las Vegas Boulevard North, Las Vegas
1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Amargosa Valley; Longstreet Inn and Casino, Highway 373 Amargosa Valley
1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Caliente; Olson Senior Citizens Center, 240 Front Street, Caliente
1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

To date, the Department of Energy has held more than 50 public hearings on the consideration of Yucca Mountain across Nevada's 17 counties, and in Inyo County, Calif., providing more than 170 days of public comment and 345 hours of public hearing time.

In November, the Department opened a final 30-day comment period for the purpose to provide citizens an opportunity to register their comments on issues that could not have been addressed prior to the close of the May 7 - Oct. 19 public comment period. The current 30-day comment period will close on Friday, December 14, 2001.

Written comments should be addressed to Carol Hanlon, U.S. Department of Energy, Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office (M/S #025), P.O. Box 364629, North Las Vegas, Nevada, 89036-8629.

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