

R-58-2001

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS SUPPORTING
THE SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION'S EFFORTS
TO COORDINATE STRATEGIES ON YUCCA MOUNTAIN**

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy (DOE) is evaluating Yucca Mountain in Nye County as a potential site for the permanent storage of 70,000 metric tons of commercial spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive defense waste; and

WHEREAS, the opening of a repository at Yucca Mountain could result in as many as 70-90,000 shipments of nuclear waste to Yucca Mountain, mostly through Southern Nevada, over a twenty four year shipping campaign; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy (DOE) prepared a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which will accompany the Secretary of Energy's decision on the potential recommendation of Yucca Mountain to the President later this year; and,

WHEREAS, the draft EIS lists the planned western and northern "Beltways," and Interstate 15 and U.S. Route 95 through the "Spaghetti bowl," all in the Las Vegas Valley, as potential truck routes for the transport of nuclear waste to Yucca Mountain; and

WHEREAS, the draft EIS also lists the Union Pacific Railroad, which traverses urbanized metropolitan Las Vegas, as a potential rail option for the shipment of waste; and

WHEREAS, recent Clark County studies and information, including legal case law from other communities, provide compelling evidence that such shipments could result in negative effects to the health and safety of residents, and impacts to property values, Las Vegas' tourist-based economy and cost of government services; and

WHEREAS, Southern Nevada continues to be one of the nation's fastest growing region and is experiencing significant construction and traffic congestion, inconsistent with the transportation of nuclear waste through the Las Vegas Valley; and

WHEREAS, the governments representing the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition (SNRPC) together constitute almost 70 percent of Nevada's population and economic revenue and negative effects to the economy of Clark County would also impact State of Nevada revenues; and

WHEREAS, it is of utmost importance to preserve and enhance the quality of life for the citizens and the future generations of Southern Nevada; and

WHEREAS, intergovernmental collaboration has proven to be an efficient and effective approach to address many of these challenges; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for collaboration and regional recommendations to address the challenges facing Southern Nevada, on the Yucca Mountain issues enumerated above; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition can provide regional strength in addressing these potentially significant Yucca Mountain issues.

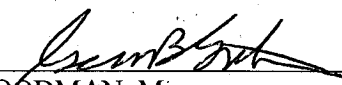
NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Las Vegas City Council that the Council supports the SNRPC's opposition of the location of a high-level nuclear waste repository in Southern Nevada.

And be it further resolved by the Las Vegas City Council that:

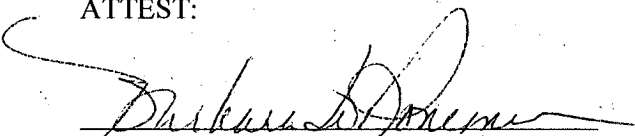
1. The Council supports the SNRPC serving as a forum to develop and coordinate strategies on regional Yucca Mountain Program issues.
2. The Council encourages the Coalition to provide regional guidance on policy issues affecting the area and ensure that constant opposition is maintained among governmental units in Clark County and with the State of Nevada.
3. The Council urges the staff of the Clark County Comprehensive Planning Department, Nuclear Waste Division, and incorporated city representatives of the Clark County Yucca Mountain Advisory meet periodically and develop and present issues and recommendations to the SNRPC.
4. The Council supports that the incorporated City of Mesquite be invited to participate in the discussions because of potentially significant impacts to that Clark County community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is effective upon adoption unless stated otherwise.

PASSED, ADOPTED, and APPROVED THIS 2nd day of May, 2001.
CITY OF LAS VEGAS

By: 
OSCAR B. GOODMAN, Mayor

ATTEST:


BARBARA JO RONEMUS, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Valsteed 4/19/01