

From: Mindy Landau
To: GWIA:penny@rjacoby.com
Date: Tue, Aug 22, 2000 1:39 PM
Subject: Re: Transportation and Storage of Nuclear Waste

65 FR 39206
6-23-00
(34)

Thank you for your comments. They will be added to the record of comments on the issue of the proposed waste storage facility in Utah.

>>> "Penny Phillips" <penny@rjacoby.com> 08/22 1:16 PM >>>

Last night I was privileged to attend a hearing on the "temporary" storage site of spent nuclear rods on the Goshute Indian Reservation in the West Desert of Utah.

I am a resident of Salt Lake City (45 miles downwind of the proposed site) and was horrified at what I learned last night. The following points articulate my point of view after listening to the participants:

1. Utah has NO nuclear reactors in the state and yet our state is expected to "temporarily" hold this dangerous rubbish from 15+ states in the Union - this is tremendously unfair.
 2. These spent rods pose "no danger" by being stored at the sites of their reactors (the people who use the cheap fuel should be responsible for disposing the waste in their own states.)
 3. Hill Air Force Base is the largest single employer in Utah and the West Desert is a flyover spot for maneuvers and testing of airplanes and munitions. It is hard for me to believe that the Department of Defense would even keep Hill AFB open if they were expected to fly over and possibly make a mistake in one of their operations over this storage site.
 4. As a citizen of Utah, I have only recently been aware of the debate over this issue (apparently it has been in the works for some time) but there has been grossly inadequate public coverage of EXACTLY what is happening to our state.
 5. The Goshute tribe is experiencing extreme poverty (as are most Native Indian tribes) and are desperate for a solution to their poverty problem. I can sympathize with this, but I am shocked that less than 8 Goshute Indian leaders want the spent rods, but they are speaking for many more people. It seems to me that native peoples have ALWAYS been exploited by the US Government (hence the breaking of their cultural backs and herding onto reservations so their lands could be used by euro-americans) and this is just another massive exploitation project. I seriously doubt that Utah BLM land was even considered because then the whole state and not just the Goshute tribe would be involved in the dealings with the energy "consortium" (the money source) from the states using nuclear fuel.
 6. If something this environmentally dangerous approaches within 45 miles of my house, I should have a DEMOCRATIC right to vote on whether or not I want it. I am aware that when Indian lands are considered, there is a process of dictatorial rather than democratic rule: I believe that is why we herded them there in the first place.
 7. Common sense indicates that because waste products from the nuclear world cannot be destroyed or made perfectly safe, it is time to seriously spend money examining (with the intent of developing) safe, alternate energy sources.
 8. Every state and city on the route of transport should be allowed democratic debate on this proposal.
- AS A TAX-PAYING CITIZEN OF THE USA AND THE STATE OF UTAH, I STRONGLY OPPOSE BRINGING NUCLEAR WASTE INTO UTAH FOR STORAGE. I ALSO STRONGLY SUPPORT AT LEAST A 180 DAY EXTENSION OF HEARINGS ON THIS MATTER.

Sincerely,

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Add Scott Flanders
(SCF)

Penelope F. Phillips
534 Ramona Avenue
Salt Lake City, UT 84105

Telephone: (801) 466-3501