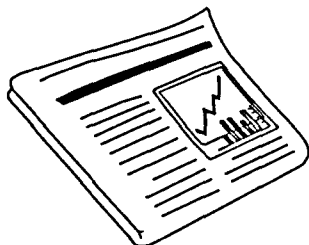


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Office of Public Affairs

In the News Today... June 17, 2004

The proposal for a nuclear waste site in Nevada took a tiny step forward Wednesday as House members tried to resolve a budget problem that threatens to dramatically curtail work, Associated Press reports. 6/16; <http://www.lasvegassun.com> .

Nuclear waste destined for Yucca Mountain will still move through the Las Vegas Valley, as an Energy Department plan to use a rail route through Caliente won't prevent its shipment through the state's most populous region, the Las Vegas Sun reports, quoting Nevada officials. 6/16; <http://www.lasvegassun.com> .

Sen. John Kerry's new Nevada campaign chief said Wednesday she thinks the Yucca Mountain project will be a defining issue in November's presidential election, AP reports. 6/16; <http://www.sfgate.com> .

PSEG Nuclear officials outlined their plans for creating a "safety conscious work environment" at the Salem and Hope Creek nuclear plants, according to Today's Sunbeam. 6/17; <http://www.nj.com> .

Vermont officials continue to raise new concerns regarding a proposed power uprate at Vermont Yankee, now arguing that the plant's calculations of how much radiation might be released during an accident need to be modified, reports the Brattleboro Reformer. 6/17; <http://www.reformer.com> .

Vermont utility regulators will hear from the NRC June 28 on the agency's plans to conduct a special review of the Vermont Yankee plant, A.P. reports. 6/16; <http://www.projo.com> .

Workers at the Pilgrim Station nuclear power plant in Plymouth, Mass., are joining the Boston Police Patrolmen's Association and other unions and using a threat to disrupt next month's Democratic National Convention to try to win a new labor contract, The Boston Globe reports. 6/17; <http://www.boston.com> .

Only a handful of people showed up for this week's public hearing on Duke Energy's proposal to use mixed-oxide fuel at its Catawba plant, reports The (S.C.) Herald. 6/16; <http://www.heraldonline.com> .

Attorneys for New Mexico and some activist groups want to know how a company planning to build a uranium enrichment plant near Eunice, N.M., would dispose of its radioactive waste, A.P. reports from an NRC

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hearing in Hobbs, N.M. 6/16; <http://www.kobtv.com> .

The Journal News carries a feature on Riverkeeper and its efforts to patrol the Hudson River and protect its fish from power plants, including Indian Point. 6/17; <http://www.nyjournalnews.com> .

The East Hampton (N.Y.) Independent News reports that a local official on Long Island wants the emergency planning zone for the Millstone nuclear plant in Connecticut expanded to 50 miles. 6/16; <http://www.indyeastend.com> .

VIENNA (Reuters) - The International Atomic Energy Agency admitted today that it had wrongly accused Iran of withholding information about imports of potentially weapons-related machinery, an admission that could cloud the IAEA's investigation into Iran's nuclear program. 6/17; <http://www.reuters.com> .

Reuters also reports that large German energy firms are introducing smokescreens to increase security at nuclear power plants and fend off potential terror attacks.