

# LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

## “YOU DECIDE” AD BACKUP

**League of Conservation Voters**  
**Ad Backup: “You Decide”**  
**TV: 30**

Audio	Backup
<p>Yucca Mountain.</p> <p>While everyone plays politics...</p> <p>Who's looking out for Nevada?</p> <p>85% of the nuclear waste could come through Las Vegas.</p>	<p><b>85 Percent of Nuclear Waste Would Come Through Las Vegas.</b> According to <i>CBS News</i> 85% of the nuclear waste would pass through Las Vegas on its way to Yucca Mountain. “City fathers say if you look at the existing transportation routes, as much as 85 percent of the nuclear waste could have to come right through the metropolitan area on its way to Yucca Mountain.” [<a href="#">CBS News</a>, 7/25/04]</p>
<p>Past businesses...</p> <p>Through communities...</p> <p>By our schools...</p>	<p><b>Transportation Of Waste Would Pass Through 43 States, Within Half-Mile Of Millions Of People.</b> Transportation of irradiated fuel to Yucca Mountain would involve truck or rail shipments through 43 states (many of which have chosen not to have nuclear facilities), within one half mile of the homes of tens of millions of people, and through over 100 of America's largest cities. Barge shipments would move through 17 port cities on the Atlantic seaboard and through the drinking water of the Great Lakes via Lake Michigan. [Sierra Club, Nuclear Waste Task Force.]</p> <p><b>50 Million People Live Within ½ Mile Of Transportation Route.</b> 50 million people live within one-half mile of the transportation routes for the estimated 53,000 truck shipments or the 10,700 mostly rail shipments slated for Yucca Mountain, according to DOE's Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the site. About 35 times more high-level radioactive waste would be shipped each year than has ever previously been transported. [Alliance for Nuclear Accountability, Yucca Mountain: Not Safe For Nuclear Waste]</p>

	<p><b>People Near Route Will Receive Radiation Exposure.</b> People near transportation corridors will receive regular radiation exposures - from 6 to 960 millirem annually depending on distance from the routes and number of shipments. [Alliance for Nuclear Accountability, Yucca Mountain: Not Safe For Nuclear Waste]</p> <p><b>277 Schools Are Within 5 Miles Of The Nuclear Waste Transportation Route In Nevada.</b> According to EWG there are 277 schools located within five miles of the nuclear waste route. [EWG, Nuclear Waste, Schools and Hospitals Near the Nuclear Waste Route in Nevada]</p>
<p>Accidents happen.</p> <p>And if one were to occur – how could Las Vegas – a city and economy built on tourism ever recover?</p> <p>Who would want to come and visit us then?</p>	<p><b>An Accident Could Cause Severe Damage.</b> A credible, severe accident in an urban area would cause many latent cancer fatalities and cost between \$63-108 billion to clean up. [Alliance for Nuclear Accountability, Yucca Mountain: Not Safe For Nuclear Waste]</p> <p><b>Yucca Mountain Would Be A Major Target for Terrorism:</b> Moving deadly shipments of nuclear cargo around the country would create tens of thousands of viable targets for terrorists. Terrorists wielding armor-piercing weapons could penetrate a shipping cask, causing a lethal release that would cost billions of dollars to cleanup. After September 11th we know that we can't take risks with something so deadly. [Sierra Club, Nuclear Waste Task Force]</p> <p><b>Las Vegas Is The Fastest Growing City In The Country.</b> According to CBS News Las Vegas is the fastest growing city in the United States. "Today, with a population of 1.6 million, it's the fastest growing metropolis in the country. Approximately 5,000 people move here every month, and there are 35 million tourists who come here every year." [CBS News, 7/25/04]</p>
<p>The question?</p> <p>Did George Bush really try and stop Yucca Mountain?</p> <p>Or was HE just playing politics.</p> <p>(Disclaimer)</p>	<p><b>Bush Said He Would Listen to Local and State Officials When Deciding on Yucca Mountain.</b> In late May 2000, Bush released the following statement in regard to storing nuclear waste in Yucca Mountain: "I believe sound science, and not politics, must prevail in the designation of any high-level nuclear waste repository. As president, I would not sign legislation that would send nuclear waste to any proposed site unless it's been deemed scientifically safe. I also believe the federal government must work with the local and state governments that will be affected to address safety and transportation issues." [Associated Press, 5/23/00]</p> <p><b>Bush Recommended Burying Nuclear Waste in Yucca Mountain Despite Opposition From Nevada Officials.</b> On February 15, 2002, Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham recommended that Bush designate Yucca Mountain as the main burial spot for the nation's radioactive nuclear waste.</p>

The following day Bush accepted Abraham's recommendation. Upon Bush's announcement, Nevada Governor Kenny Guinn (R) immediately filed suit in the United States District Court in Washington, DC to block the proposal. The following Nevada officials also oppose Bush's plan to store nuclear waste in Yucca Mountain: Senator Harry Reid (D), Senator John Ensign (R), Rep. Shelley Berkley (D), Rep. Jim Gibbons (R) and Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman (D). [New York Times, 2/15/02; 2/16/02; Harry Reid "Issues, Energy: Yucca Mountain"; Associated Press, 1/10/02; Shelley Berkley Press Release 1/10/02; Mayor Oscar Goodman Press Release, 1/10/02; Greenwire, 1/25/02]

**Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham Used "Weak To Moderate" Standards For Determining Whether Nuclear Waste Should Be Stored At Yucca.** "The president, Reid told him, had lied to the people of Nevada about the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository, which the state vehemently opposes. He and Cheney campaigned on a promise that science would determine whether the resting place for 77,000 tons of nuclear waste would be in a mountain 90 miles from Las Vegas. Reid charges that the standards applied in the recommendation offered by Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham were, according to experts, "weak to moderate" and inadequate for radioactive storage." [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 3/9/02]