

US Nuclear Energy Foundation

"Evangelizing Nuclear Advocacy by Bringing Science to Citizens"

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Op-Ed

"Nevada's grassroots public are dissed by our bureaucracy rather than transparency on Yucca Mountain"

Nevada's elected bureaucracy continue to spread media comment opposing the Yucca Mountain Repository. Regardless of your "position," the Yucca Mountain Project is Congressional law. The only "legal" way to reverse this is a revoking law.

Nevada's grassroots public should know that when the bureaucracy claim that Nevada opposes Yucca MT, it is "their opinion". The only true measure of public opinion is through a referendum voted on by the public. Political opinion of Nevada's scientific objections does not balance with the Yucca Application Study facts noted below.

Yucca has been a thirty + year study by 8 of America's national scientific laboratories. Input and review recommendations were made from more than 100 US colleges and universities. The initial bore hole tunnel is a taxpayer investment into the <u>research study</u> of more than \$10 Billion dollars. The license application study was reviewed by more than 200 scientists and engineers at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission with no disqualifying elements found in its initial overview.

9 of Nevada's 17 Counties support completing the Yucca MT Application Review. Another indication of stronghold bureaucracy overruling small grassroots counties.

Common sense would suggest that these laboratories, colleges, and agencies would have nothing to gain by providing inaccurate scientific analysis. It is also important to note that based on the efforts of the U.S. study, every other country in the world settled on the final disposition of nuclear waste through deep geologic storage.

The Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future was appointed by President Barack Obama, it was tasked with studying nuclear waste disposal. Their primary study concluded that such a facility must be "consent-based", e.g. accepted by the public. Their "study" was directed not to consider the attributes of Yucca MT. Our position is that Nevada's public have never been provided a transparent assessment of the Yucca MT science and engineering versus the political opposition. They never mention the \$97 billion dollars economic, science & engineering, robotics and drone infusion, inclusive of the Yucca MT build. The world cannot expect to advance high technology solutions for society if it is blocked by political opposition.

Gary J Duarte, President, Director, US Nuclear Energy Foundation

The US. Nuclear Energy Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing accurate information on nuclear energy. The USNEF has the goal of mobilizing citizens in Nevada and across the U.S. to design and build new "4th generation advanced reactors, Small Modular Reactors, (SMRs) the Yucca Mountain Repository and spent fuel reprocessing technology".