

From: Parrish, John
Sent: Monday, January 07, 2008 10:45 AM
To: 'Barbara Byron'
Subject: RE: Inyo County's final comments on the YuccaMountainSupplemental EIS

Hi, Barbara –

As we discussed on earlier occasions, the County's geological concerns about groundwater impacts are within the realm of possibilities and should be recognized, but the chance of an actual groundwater impact to the eastern Death Valley area appears to be extremely small. Reading the County's report and the DOE's consulting reports reveals that it is becoming a geological argument of interpretations, opinions, and "what if's."

The County has a legitimate position of ensuring protection for current and future water supplies and its living environment, and it has done a good job of raising "what if" issues that need to be recognized and addressed (e.g. does groundwater pumping have an affect on potential groundwater migration from the repository site). The geological evidence regarding risks of aquifer contamination and migration of contaminated groundwater from the Yucca site to eastern Death Valley cannot be persuasively presented by either side – indeed, some assertions seem quite speculative.

However, should there be an aquifer contamination, I believe that we earlier recommended that placement of monitoring wells (and high capacity extraction wells) around the repository should be employed to detect any early "leaks" into any of the groundwater aquifers, and that a line of monitoring wells (with high capacity extraction capabilities) should also be placed into the aquifers along the California border area to track and extract any contamination plumes should this occur.

As for the surface transportation of spent material is concerned, this is out of the realm of CGS.

Good luck – Cheers --

JGP

From: Barbara Byron [mailto:Bbyron@energy.state.ca.us]
Sent: Monday, January 07, 2008 8:39 AM
To: Parrish, John
Subject: RE: Inyo County's final comments on the YuccaMountainSupplemental EIS

Hi John,

Thanks very much for taking the time to review the materials. I'd like to support Inyo County's groundwater impact concerns in our state comments. Does that seem a reasonable approach? Thanks again.

Barbara

>>> "Parrish, John" <John.Parrish@conservation.ca.gov> 1/4/2008 4:09 PM >>>

Hi, Barbara –

I have plowed through the information you sent, and CGS doesn't really have anything new to contribute at this time.

Happy New Year to you, too.

Cheers --

JGP

From: Barbara Byron [mailto:Bbyron@energy.state.ca.us]
Sent: Wednesday, January 02, 2008 10:20 AM
To: Jim Epperson; Robert Patrick; Parrish, John; Gary Butner; Brian.Hembacher@doj.ca.gov; Susan.Durbin@doj.ca.gov; Charleen Fain-Keslar; Jeff Wong; Ben Tong; Bill Potter; Kenneth Peel; Larry Kirsch; Rick Rayburn; Carl Hauge; pierotti@water.ca.gov; John Woodling; Darrin Polhemus; hsinger@waterboards.ca.gov; lapplegate@waterboards.ca.gov
Subject: Inyo County's final comments on the Yucca MountainSupplemental EIS

Happy New Year to You All,

As most of you know, the U.S. Department of Energy has issued supplemental environmental impact statements regarding the proposed Yucca Mountain Repository. These Supplemental EISs can be found online at:

http://www.ocrwm.doe.gov/ym_repository/index.shtml

Attached please find Inyo County's comments on these SEIS. Their comments focus on the potential groundwater and transportation impacts in Inyo County. The second attachment details Inyo's groundwater studies program, its main findings, and technical deficiencies identified in the draft Repository SEIS.

The third attachment includes comments and recommendations which I made in November regarding potential repository impacts in California. I'm working on an expanded version (written comments are due to DOE by January 10), and would like to include some comments and recommendations in support of Inyo County's comments regarding potential groundwater and transportation impacts.

I would appreciate any feedback or recommendations from you regarding which, if any, of Inyo County's major points should be endorsed in our comments. I apologize for the schedule, but I would appreciate any comments that you might have by this Friday, if possible, or Monday at the latest. I will try to circulate a draft of expanded California comments on the SEIS by early next week.

If you have any questions, please phone me at 654-4976. Thanks.

Best Regards,
Barbara Byron

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