



CAROLYN G. GOODMAN  
MAYOR

May 7, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
H-232 Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steve Scalise  
House Majority Whip  
H-329 Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
House Majority Leader  
H-107 Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Sirs:

In 1987 Congress voted for the Department of Energy (DOE) to build a nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain without the support of Nevada. Now, the House of Representatives is planning to consider H.R. 3053, The Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act. I am writing to express my vehement opposition to this legislation.

Yucca Mountain would cost U. S. taxpayers billions of dollars *and require the dangerous transportation of nuclear waste across every state in the country* before it arrives in Nevada, which, by the way, produces no nuclear waste. These transports journey through communities in the nation whose infrastructures are well-known to be rated at the dangerously low, D+ level by highly renowned associations of engineers and scientific professionals. Bridges and tunnels have not been reinforced in decades, railroad tracks are faulty (as we well know!), and roads are beyond needing repair and replacement. No matter the transport vehicle used, the cargo travels on challenged routes which are unknown to the public and at times undeclared!

In my tenure as Mayor, every year I have warned my fellow Mayors of the dangers of this transportation, and every year the Mayors across the nation have passed a resolution at their annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting requiring that the U.S. Department of Energy instead focus on deactivating and/or repurposing radioactive waste on site. High-priority research is needed to identify methods for the safe treatment and storage of radioactive waste at origination locations in order to mitigate the health and environmental risks of transporting low, high and mixed level waste to offsite treatment facilities. Even Mayors with nuclear waste on their doorsteps understand the dangers of transporting this waste.

As Mayor of Las Vegas, I am fortunate to preside over a beautiful city that is home to over 600,000 residents in one of the fastest-growing areas in the nation boasting over 2.4 million residents. Additionally, 42 million visitors choose the Las Vegas valley as a destination annually. Yucca Mountain is less than 100 miles away from this gem in the desert. I believe that DOE's Nuclear Regulatory Commission should be required to have support from state, local and tribal governments before constructing a nuclear waste repository anywhere in the country. Therefore, I urge you and your colleagues to vote down H.R. 3053, which rejects science and ignores our steadfast opposition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Goodman".

Carolyn Goodman  
Mayor, City of Las Vegas

2014 WINNER OF THE  
3. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS  
CLIMATE PROTECTION AWARD

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