



United States Department of Energy

## Office of Public Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20585

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Thursday, October 4, 2007

### **U. S. Department of Energy Issues National Environmental Policy Act Documents for Public Comment**

**Las Vegas, NV** – The U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) this week is issuing for public comment two Draft National Environmental Policy Act documents related to the Yucca Mountain Project. The 90-day comment period begins October 12, 2007 and ends January 10, 2008.

- [\*Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for a Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada\*](#) (Draft Repository SEIS)
- [\*Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for a Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada – Nevada Rail Transportation Corridor\*](#) (Draft Nevada Rail Corridor SEIS) [\*and Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a Rail Alignment for the Construction and Operation of a Railroad in Nevada to a Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada\*](#) (Draft Rail Alignment EIS)

The first document, the Draft Repository SEIS, is a supplement to the Yucca Mountain Final EIS that DOE issued in 2002. The Draft Repository SEIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts of constructing and operating the Yucca Mountain repository under the repository design and operational plans that have been developed since the Yucca Mountain Final EIS was issued.

The second document relates to the transportation of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste in Nevada and contains two parts. The first part, the Draft Nevada Rail Corridor SEIS, considers the potential environmental impacts of transport along the Mina corridor, which was analyzed in response to public comments. It also updates the information and analysis for other Nevada rail corridors evaluated in the Yucca Mountain Final EIS. The second part, the Draft Rail Alignment EIS, evaluates the potential environmental impacts of constructing and operating a railroad along specific alignments for both the Mina and Caliente corridors, although Caliente is the Department's preferred corridor.

DOE has scheduled eight public hearings for interested parties to comment on the two draft documents. The meetings are scheduled as follows:

- Hawthorne, Nevada. Hawthorne Convention Center, 932 E. Street, November 13, 2007, from 4 to 7 p.m.
- Caliente, Nevada. Caliente Youth Center, U.S. Highway 93, November 15, 2007, from 5:30 to 8 p.m.
- Reno/Sparks, Nevada. Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 4590 S. Virginia Street, November 19, 2007, from 4 to 7 p.m.
- Town of Amargosa Valley, Nevada. Longstreet Inn & Casino, Highway 373, November 26, 2007, from 4 to 7 p.m.
- Goldfield, Nevada. Goldfield School Gymnasium, Hall & Euclid, November 27, 2007, from 4 to 7 p.m.
- Lone Pine, California. Statham Hall, 138 N. Jackson Street, November 29, 2007, from 4 to 7 p.m.
- Las Vegas, Nevada. Cashman Center, 850 Las Vegas Blvd., December 3, 2007, from 4 to 7 p.m.
- Washington, D.C. Marriott at Metro Center, 775 12<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., December 5, 2007, from 2 to 5 p.m.

Requests for additional information on the Draft Repository SEIS and the Draft Nevada Rail Corridor SEIS and Draft Rail Alignment EIS may be submitted to the EIS Office, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, 1551 Hillshire Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89134 or by calling 1-800-967-3477 or faxing a request to 1-800-967-0739.

Written comments may be submitted to the EIS Office at the above address, or by facsimile to 1-800-967-0739, or via the Internet at: <http://www.ocrwm.doe.gov>.

These documents represent two major milestones on the path to DOE's submittal of an application for construction authorization to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission by June 30, 2008. Yucca Mountain was approved by the Congress and the President as the site for the nation's first permanent spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste geologic repository in 2002.

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YMP-07-09