

OCT 10 2001

0042

552365

MR. GOEDHART: Okay. For the record, my name

4 is Ed Goedhart.

5 I live in Amargosa Valley, which will be

6 ground zero if Yucca Mountain gets the go-ahead.

7 Today, I'm not speaking in my capacity as a Town Board

8 Advisory Member, nor in the capacities of other boards

9 upon which I sit. Today I'm speaking as a resident of

10 the valley, as a father of two teenagers, as a husband,

11 as a farm owner in the valley and as a dairy manager.

12 I am not here to debate scientific data and

13 hypotheses, nor the interpretation of that data. I'm

14 here to ask you why you failed to consider the future

15 of the residents, businesses, and Amargosa Valley. The

16 Draft Environmental Study talks about impact as they

17 relate to dust, plants, tortoises and even birds flying

18 overheard. I wish that a similar effort had gone

19 towards evaluating and mitigating the negative impacts

20 of Yucca Mountain to the business community of Amargosa

21 Valley.

22 We have a farming community here that

23 produces grains, milk, almonds, pistachios. A good

24 portion of the farm products are certified organic.

---

**552365**

25 During the last eight years of the farm products

0043

1 produced in Amargosa Valley have shot up to \$23 million  
2 annually. Today Amargosa Valley is one of the largest  
3 highest-producing farm areas in the state of Nevada.  
4 25 percent of Nevada's total milk production originates  
5 in Amargosa Valley. Farm products are shipped to  
6 millions of people in the western United States.

7 This farming sector generates hundreds of  
8 jobs for rural Nevada's struggling economy. The EPA  
9 has now quantified an annual radiation dose they say  
10 the safe. Yucca Mountain will now turn every human and  
11 animal here in the valley as a radiation dose receptor.  
12 If you look back to the events of September 11 and  
13 realize what the actions of a few madmen killed to the  
14 public perception of the safety of traveling by air,  
15 the airline industry has been devastated and Las Vegas  
16 is feeling the negative effects of less tourists  
17 arriving by air. That's been documented.

18 Given this example, it would not be a stretch  
19 to say that the farming economy could be devastated by  
20 Yucca Mountain. Here again, public perception, not  
21 just facts, public perception could drastically reduce

**552365**

22 the marketability of Amargosa Valley farming products.

23 Let's do this EIS right. Let's truly examine the

24 potential future economic impacts of Yucca Mountain to

25 the valley right here. I think we as humans matter

0044

1 just as much as the plants, turtles and birds.

2 Thank you.