

December 15, 2000

Linda Lance
Associate Director for Transportation, Energy, and Lands Management
Council on Environmental Quality
Old Executive Office Building, Room 360
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Linda,

We hear that things may be moving quickly on the EPA Yucca Mountain standard. We would like you to know where we stand. We are very thankful to President Clinton for his strong veto of Senate Bill 1287 last April 25th, upholding EPA's authority to set radiation standards at Yucca Mountain. NIRS has collected nearly 2,500 petition signatures which have been delivered to Bob Perciasepe urging EPA to do its job as set forth in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act as amended, and to promulgate a standard that upholds the Safe Drinking Water Act maximum contaminant levels at Yucca Mountain in order to protect public health and the environment. Although we do not endorse any weakening of the point of compliance from the previously established WIPP standard in New Mexico, we are very supportive of EPA standing strong on protecting the groundwater, and on upholding the Safe Drinking Water Act at Yucca Mountain.

Sincerely,

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