Native Community Action Council
P.O. Box 46301, Las Vegas, NV 89114

PRESS RELEASE
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Contact: Ian Zabarte (702) 203-8816

The Native Community Action Council (NCAC) takes no position of Nevada's filing at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to restart the suspended Yucca Mountain proceedings. As a party with standing in the Atomic Safety Licensing Board Panel (ASLBP) of the NRC, the NCAC made the only ownership contention, a requirement of 10 CFR 60.121 to protect Shoshone land and people. Yucca Mountain is within the homelands of the Western Bands of the Shoshone Nation of Indians defined by the 1863 Treaty of Ruby Valley (Consolidated Treaty Series Volume 127-1863).

NCAC member Joe Kennedy stated, *"Stopping Yucca Mountain is the right thing to do to protect the Western Shoshone, all people and life around Yucca Mountain from radiation risk posed by high-level nuclear waste."*

In 1987, the US Congress identified Yucca Mountain as the sole site for characterization as a deep geologic high-level nuclear waste repository. The Western Bands of the Shoshone Nation of Indians has been resisting coordinated efforts led by the US Department of Energy, the US Bureau of Land Management, the US Environmental Protection Agency, the US Department of Transportation and the licensing agency, the US NRC, to inflict hazardous conditions upon the Shoshone people known to be plausible from radioactive materials.

According to Ian Zabarte, Secretary of the Native Community Action Council*, "Property is not a thing. It is a relationship between people in regard to things. Shoshone property rights at Yucca Mountain are protected by the treaty and Article 6 of the US Constitution. Western Shoshone title remains unextinguished."*

The Native Community Action Council has been investigating, educating and advocating on behalf of the Western Shoshone land and people since 1994. Those investigations of radiation exposure are the basis for contentions filed in the NRC ALSBP in 2008 including ownership of land and water.

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