

1 DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

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PUBLIC MEETING

6

MODERN PIT FACILITY DRAFT EIS

7

Tuesday, July 1, 2003

8

7:00 p.m.

9

Pojoaque, New Mexico

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16 FACILITATOR: HOLMES BROWN

17

18

19 ALSO PRESENT: MIKE MITCHELL, NNSA

JAY ROSE, NNSA

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22 REPORTED BY: EDITH ARNOLD FLORES, RPR, CCR #208

Cumbre Court Reporting

23

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1 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

2 MR. BROWN: Good evening, folks.

3 It is now time to receive your comments for
4 inclusion in the formal record. This session
5 will be transcribed by our court reporter.

6 I will call on speakers in the order in
7 which they have signed up. Please come to that podium
8 near to the court reporter, providing your name and
9 organizational affiliation if appropriate.

10 If you haven't signed up yet, you can sign
11 up outside and add your name to the list. If you have
12 a written copy of your statement, please give it to me
13 after you're finished with your statement, and I will
14 pass that on to the court reporter so that she can
15 compare her transcription with your statement just to
16 make sure everything is accurate.

17 Also, if you have additional materials that
18 you would like to have made part of the record such as
19 charts or drafts and so on that you don't intend to
20 read, then you can give those to me and I will mark
21 them and make sure they're made part of the record.

22 We have more than 40 people signed up to
23 speak tonight, and that's been the case in the last
24 two meetings that we have had. As a result, we're
25 going to have to have a three-minute limit on your

1 formal statement.

2 Again, that has been the practice at the
3 last two meetings, so what I will ask you to do is
4 please summarize your statement if it is going to run
5 more than three minutes. Again, you can turn in the
6 remainder of your statement, and that will be included
7 in the record.

8 Also, let me remind you that the comment
9 period for this DEIS extends through August 5, so you
10 will have plenty of opportunity to add to any comments 11
that you make tonight.

12 At the two-minute mark, I will let you know
13 that you have a minute left. Again, if you can
14 summarize your remaining points, this will allow
15 everybody who signed up to make a comment within a
16 reasonable time tonight, one hopes before midnight.

17 So with that by way of introduction, let me
18 start with our first speaker who is Miles Nelson.

19 MR. NELSON: Actually, there was a request
20 that these young people have a chance to speak first.
21 If it is okay with you, I will just go second.

22 MR. BROWN: Yes, that's fine.

23 COMMENTS BY YOUTH GROUP

24 Ms. Mendoza: My name is Loretta Mendoza.
25 I am here on behalf of the New Mexico Lions, and this

1 is our youth group, called the POA, and we are here to
2 introduce our map so that people can see where the
3 route is going through the poor communities, the
4 indigenous, the Chicano land grants, the Native
5 Americans, and we would like people to really check it
6 out.

7 This map is going to get more detailed
8 because we're going to go into the medical hazards
9 that are happening within these communities, so we
10 would like everybody to please look at it.

11 Ms. Trujillo: My name is Crystal Trujillo.
12 I'm with POA. Making this map, it shows -- well,
13 these lines right here, like the pink ones and the 14 blue
ones and the green ones, those are the
15 transportation, the railways, the highways, all the
16 places showing all across the country.

17 All the orange you'll see is the Chicano
18 land grants. All the green triangles are the Native
19 American communities. All the blue triangles are the
20 African American communities. You can see where most
21 of them lie, they go right through the land of the
22 poor.

23 Unidentified Youth: You know what, let me
24 tell you guys something. All those little spots on
25 the map is all the nuclear stuff going on in our

1 country, and especially here in New Mexico. When is
2 enough enough? Look at all that. Our whole country
3 is covered with nuclear junk, crap.

4 Unidentified Youth: We want help to clean
5 up this junk.

6 Unidentified Youth: We don't want you
7 taking our water.

8 Unidentified Youth: We don't want a modern
9 pit facility.

10 Unidentified Youth: We want help to clean
11 up this junk. Stop killing us people.

12 Ms. Mendoza: The sad thing is that New
13 Mexico is one of the only states that receives \$250
14 million a year for military use. We could use a
15 fourth of that for education to educate our children.

16 I have kids here who are struggling to get
17 into the GED program and can't do it because they have
18 to work, and they can't get good jobs because they
19 don't have an education, and they can't get good
20 health care because they don't have a good job, and
21 they make too much money to get on Medicaid.

22 You know, it is sad. Even if we got a
23 fourth of the money that they are putting into the
24 military war wagon or whatever, it would help us, it
25 would make us better people, and then we would be able

1 to make jobs for ourselves.

2 MR. BROWN: Do you have any way to
3 miniaturize that or to get maybe a photo of it so we
4 can submit it for the record? I'm afraid some of the
5 things might fall of.

6 Ms. Mendoza: We can get a copy, we can
7 take a picture of it.

8 Unidentified Youth: And we will be giving
9 a demonstration if anybody has more questions or
10 anything they want to add. We'll display the map
11 outside.

12 Ms. Juarez: My name is Edwinia Juarez.
13 I'm 20, and I'm against the pits.

14 MS. Trujillo: My name is Crystal Trujillo.
15 I'm 19, and I am against the pits.

16 Mr. Vigil: My name is Marcos Vigil. I'm
17 18. I'm against the pits.

18 Mr. Morelo: My name is Miguel Morelo, I'm
19 18, and I'm against the pits.

20 Mr. Powers: My name is Charles Powers, I'm
21 19, and I'm against the pits.

22 Mr. Nolace: My name Ricky Nolace, I'm 17,
23 and I am against the pits.

24 Ms Mendoza: My name is Loretta Mendoza.
25 I'm 39 years old, and I'm against the pits for myself,

1 for my children, and for my grandchildren.

2 MR. BROWN: Let the record show it was
3 unanimous.

4 Miles Nelson, you're next.

5 COMMENTS BY MILES NELSON

6 MR. NELSON: My name is Miles Nelson. I am
7 a practicing emergency physician. I am co-founder and
8 Research Director for Citizen Action.

9 I was at the Carlsbad meeting. I can tell
10 you, this is quite a different meeting than in
11 Carlsbad yesterday. Thank you very much for being
12 here.

13 I am just concerned about the euphemisms
14 surrounding this pit facility. The assertions being
15 made that this is to maintain the nuclear stockpile we
16 have now are just really erroneous.

17 I was doing some math in the back of the
18 room. Let me just share that with you. We were
19 committed by the 2001 Moscow Treaty to reduce our
20 nuclear arsenal from 8,000 to 2,000 weapons. A modern
21 pit facility that manufactures 125 pits a year with a
22 lifetime of 60 years is enough to maintain an arsenal
23 of 7,500 weapons. Why do we need to maintain so many
24 weapons when we're committed to reduce our nuclear
25 arsenal?

1 And when you go to the 450-pit-per-year
2 production scenario, that is 27,000 nuclear weapons
3 that that would be maintaining. I think that that is
4 a little disingenuous of this administration.

5 Let me talk about promises a little bit. I
6 was raised to keep my promises. I would like to live
7 in a country that keeps its promises as well.

8 In 1970 we entered into the
9 Nonproliferation Treaty which committed us
10 unequivocally to the cessation of the nuclear arms
11 race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament. In
12 1996, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty was signed.
13 No more nuclear explosions anywhere on the planet. In
14 2001 the Moscow treaty, the Bush-Putin Strategic
15 Offensive Reduction, I already told you what that
16 says.

17 Let me tell you what happened in 2002. A
18 nuclear posture review was leaked to the public, a
19 secret document. On page 14, it says, "The need is
20 clear for a revitalized nuclear weapons complex that
21 will be able to design, develop, manufacture and
22 certify new warheads in response to new national
23 requirements to maintain readiness to resume
24 underground nuclear testing."

25 I believe that Mr. Rose is a bit incorrect.

1 I believe this modern pit facility violates these
2 promises that we have made to the rest of the world
3 and that we need to take that at face value.

4 Outside the meeting hall is this document
5 provided by our gentlemen friends from the Department
6 of Energy, and it says, I quote, "The purpose of this
7 modern pit facility will be to, quote, assemble
8 complete pits at current or new design." New design,
9 that is against the law, against the world law, and I
10 think we should tell them to stop.

11 Let me just tell you that we have already
12 spent about \$6 trillion over the course of the nuclear
13 weapons industry in this country in the course of
14 several decades. That is about \$6 a minute for every
15 minute since Jesus was born. I think we have spent
16 enough money on nuclear weapons already, I think it's
17 time to say no. And I say we say no nuclear bomb
18 factory, nowhere, no way.

19 MR. BROWN: Our next speaker is Sue Dayton.

20 COMMENTS BY SUE DAYTON

21 MS. DAYTON: Thanks for having me speak
22 again. I was at the Carlsbad hearing last night, and
23 I have to agree with Miles Nelson that it's a bit
24 different here tonight, a bit different atmosphere.

25 Again, my name is Sue Dayton with Citizen

1 Action. Last night, Mr. Mike Mitchell was asked what
2 happens when a trigger, as in plutonium trigger,
3 fires. He said that a pit is surrounded by
4 conventional explosives, and explosives are detonated
5 which then causes the plutonium to implode. And he
6 ended there, period.

7 What I would like to show you is what
8 really happens when a nuclear bomb explodes, and this
9 is not a modern pit facility, this is a nuclear bomb
10 factory. I want to make that clear to everyone here
11 tonight. This is something that you will not see in
12 the Environmental Impact Statement.

13 Photo 1: This is a street scene from
14 Hiroshima, 400 meters from the hypocenter, August 7,
15 12:00 noon, 1945.

16 Photo 2: Victims, some alive, some dead.
17 125 meters from the hypocenter after the bomb was
18 dropped on Nagasaki, August 10, 1945, 10:00 a.m.

19 Photo 3: Charred remains of what was a boy
20 700 meters from the hypocenter, Nagasaki, 1945.

21 Photo 4: A woman being treated for third
22 degree burns after the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima,
23 1945. She was two kilometers from the hypocenter.

24 Photo 5: A mother feeding her burned baby
25 after the bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, 1945. She was 1

1 3.6 kilometers from the hypocenter.

2 Photo 6. Common graves containing the
3 bodies of 252 people excavated seven years after the
4 bomb was dropped on Hiroshima in 1945.

5 UNIDENTIFIED: What country dropped the
6 bombs?

7 UNIDENTIFIED: Who dropped the bomb?

8 MS. DAYTON: The United States of America
9 dropped these bombs.

10 What I would like to point out here is that
11 the robust nuclear earth penetrators that you all have
12 heard about can cause such damage. In fact, there
13 reportedly could be several times or more times the
14 yield of the bombs that were dropped on Hiroshima.
15 These are among the many new bombs that are being
16 proposed to be built at this new nuclear bomb factory.

17 I also want to say that I am extremely
18 disappointed that Senator Bingaman, Congressman Udall,
19 and Governor Richardson signed a letter last night
20 announcing their support for a new nuclear bomb
21 factory at Carlsbad.

22 I am especially disappointed and disturbed
23 by the comments made by Mr. Jay Rose and Mike Mitchell
24 with DOE and NNSA. Mr. Rose, your example that one
25 worker over the course of 5,000 years who works at

1 this new nuclear bomb factory will get cancer is a lie
2 of omission. You did not admit until someone pointed
3 out that out of a work force of 1,000 workers at this
4 new bomb factory, one worker will get cancer every 4.9
5 years, and that is under normal conditions.

6 Mr. Mitchell, you misinformed the Carlsbad
7 community by failing to inform them about the new
8 nuclear weapons planned to be built at this new bomb
9 factory, weapons like the robust nuclear earth
10 penetrator and the low yield or mini-nukes for
11 tactical use on the battlefield. These are bombs
12 capable of inflicting the same damage that you see in
13 these photos.

14 My final comment is that we do not want or
15 need a new nuclear bomb factory in New Mexico or
16 anywhere else in the United States, nowhere, no way.

17 MR. BROWN: Out next speaker is Penelope
18 McMullen.

19 COMMENTS BY PENELOPE McMULLEN

20 MS. McMULLEN: I'm with the Sisters of
21 Loretto and there are three of us. We're going to take
22 the three minutes together. I'm Penelope McMullen, a
23 Sister of Loretto.

24 Ms. Prebolay: I am Elaine Prebolay, a
25 Sister of Loretto.

1 Ms. Manion: I am Patricia Manion, a Sister
2 of Loretto.

3 Ms. McMullen: The Loretto community has
4 been working to end the production of nuclear weapons
5 for 25 years. We oppose plans for the modern pit
6 facility anywhere.

7 Ms. Prebolay: We are tired of talking
8 about the immorality of nuclear weapons and not being
9 heard.

10 Ms. Manion: We are tired of pointing out
11 how nuclear weapons production violates international
12 law and not being heard.

13 Ms. McMullen: We are tired of showing how
14 producing plutonium pits violates the Nuclear
15 Nonproliferation Treaty which the United States
16 ratified and not being heard.

17 Ms. Prebolay: We are tired of explaining
18 how our nuclear weapons make us less secure and invite
19 terrorism and not being heard.

20 Ms. Manion: We are tired of explaining how
21 every step of producing nuclear weapons from mining to
22 testing, to manufacture, to waste disposal harms
23 employees and the environment and not being heard.

24 Ms. McMullen: Since words seem to have no
25 effect, we request that the remainder of our comment

1 time be spent in silent prayer. There is a silent
2 prayer circle in the back for anybody who wants to
3 join that during the whole meeting.

4 MR. BROWN: I would like to call Norm
5 Budow.

6 COMMENTS BY NORM BUDOW

7 MR. BUDOW: People, for whatever it is
8 worth, I would like to tell you about a little
9 incident that took place when I came to Santa Fe a
10 little while back, a few years back. I went to a
11 little post-Christmas party, and after a few drinks
12 one of the people there was telling me, "Norm, I work
13 up at the Lab, make weapons, and do you know what, the
14 Soviet Union collapsed in '91, and we're still doing
15 the same thing. We're still doing the same thing."

16 I thought that was kind of a damaging
17 admission, and I thought to myself there are good
18 people there that maybe should heed what Socrates
19 said, "An unexamined life is not worth living."

20 Too often I think that people forgot that.
21 I have to pinch myself. We're talking about where to
22 put it, what to make, how many to make. We talk about
23 agility, but we don't talk about doing the thing that
24 maybe has the most to be done, getting a different
25 work product up at the Lab, a completely different

1 work product, so that at the end of the day a man
2 could say, "Well, I didn't just solve interesting
3 weapons problems, but I am dealing with the real needs
4 of New Mexico."

5 I work as a volunteer at the State Agency
6 on Aging, and we get problems from all over the state.
7 When we think about what our young people said, how
8 much money we are spending on weaponry, do we indeed
9 feel more secure? The whole world looks askance at
10 what we are doing, and they don't feel secure because
11 we, in effect, are taking a different tack about what
12 we could be and should be doing.

13 I hope that people will really examine and
14 look to making a different work product than death at
15 the end of their day. Thank you.

16 MR. BROWN: I will be calling the next
17 speaker and then also the name of the person to follow
18 them. I know folks are kind of packed in here, so if
19 you're going to be following the speaker, if you can
20 begin making your way to the front, we can accelerate
21 the process.

22 Our next speaker is Mary Barton Riseley,
23 and she will be followed by Sue Chavez.

24 COMMENTS BY MARY BARTON RISELY

25 MS. RISELEY: Thank you for the opportunity

1 to speak. I will be handing in a longer comment
2 later, but I wanted to just say a few things.

3 I have worked on nuclear weapons issues for
4 a long time. I was one of the founders of the Los
5 Alamos Study Group, and in that capacity I came to
6 know a man and love a man that many people from Los
7 Alamos will know, Jay Carson Mark. He was the head of
8 the Theoretical Division, that is the Weapons Design
9 Division of the Laboratory for 22 years, and he was
10 known to be one of the most eminent and respected
11 nuclear weapons designers in the world.

12 He very simply said that plutonium weapons
13 do not age, there is no problem, and that the Lab had
14 set aside with each generation of weapons a sample
15 that would not be touched and would be tested
16 regularly.

17 I noticed in this handout from Nuclear
18 Watch, which I will submit with my comments, that
19 another professor from Berkeley in the year 2000
20 actually claimed that the long-range order actually
21 got closer to an ideal crystal structure. So I think
22 it is very misleading to claim that this facility is
23 needed in any way to make our arsenal more reliable.

24 The second thing I want to say is that
25 having spent some time abroad recently, I want every

1 American to know that the hypocrisy of preaching on
2 and on about weapons of mass destruction in a small
3 impoverished country like Iraq when we have more than
4 anyone else in the world is well known abroad, and it
5 does not make us safer.

6 The third thing I want to say is that we
7 signed the Nonproliferation Treaty in 1968. We
8 participated in the renewal negotiations in 1995. I
9 happened to be present at the United Nations, and I
10 can tell you for a fact, not one single person with
11 the possible exception of the U.S. delegation, maybe
12 the French, maybe the British, maybe the Russians,
13 maybe the Chinese, avowed nuclear weapons states, but
14 no one else negotiating that renewal treaty would ever
15 have agreed that making new generations of nuclear
16 weapons and new nuclear weapons pits was within the
17 parameters of that treaty. No way.

18 So we cannot do one thing that would make
19 us less safer and which would encourage proliferation
20 more than to build a new nuclear weapons factory.

21 So I agree, nowhere, no way. Thank you
22 very much.

23 MR. BROWN: Sue Chavez? Floy Barrett will
24 follow you.

25 COMMENTS BY SUE CHAVEZ

1 MS. CHAVEZ: (Opening remarks in Spanish.)

2 I just want to get a shot out and thank all
3 the young people for coming because it really gives me
4 hope.

5 I am here to express my opposition to
6 building a plutonium pit facility at LANL, Carlsbad or
7 anywhere else. More and/or new nuclear weapons will
8 only make us less safe. I think it is the height of
9 arrogance and extremely racist to develop and deploy
10 weapons of mass destruction while not allowing any
11 other country to develop them.

12 I want to mention that chemical and
13 biological weapons by definition are not weapons of
14 mass destruction. Nuclear weapons are.

15 The Cold War has been over for more than 10
16 years, around the same time that the FBI shut down
17 Rocky Flats because of gross environmental insults and
18 threat to public health. The U.S. already has
19 thousands of pits which, according to the DOE, become
20 more stable with age.

21 There is no plan to dismantle the currently
22 existing pits. I resent reading the language out here
23 that indicates that a "modern pit facility" would
24 "address critical national security issues."

25 The DOE here is putting a happy face on

1 political decisions in this country, what I would
2 consider the far right. They're paid to do that. All
3 the people that are here for free are against the pit
4 facility.

5 Unfortunately the history of nuclear
6 weapons in the U.S. is a history of deceit to the
7 public. The Atomic Energy Commission, the predecessor
8 to the Department of Energy, lied to shepherders who
9 knew that the above-ground testing was causing
10 deformities and wiping out their livestock.

11 I suggest reading "The Day We Bombed Utah,"
12 which is exactly about that deceit. The level of
13 emotion in this meeting is largely due to our
14 frustration about being lied to over and over and over
15 again and about not being able to influence the
16 process. Many of us have testified at numerous
17 hearings and we have seen no change in the plan.

18 I notice that there is a step mentioned in
19 their platform to purify plutonium. Doesn't this mean
20 enrich to make it more radioactive? I see this as one
21 more example of an attempt to mislead us. Similarly,
22 they talk about outgoing waste to deposition sites.
23 That implies that there is some place for the nuclear
24 waste to go. There is no more "away."

25 I want to know why there is no meeting in

1 Albuquerque or any of the other sites downwind
2 including Mexico. The leukemia rates in Juarez are
3 outrageous, they're totally out of control.

4 Finally, as a long-time employee in special
5 ed in the public schools, I am distraught that
6 billions of dollars will go to building bombs instead
7 of meeting basic needs such as health and education.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. BROWN: Peter Neils will follow Floy.

10 COMMENTS BY FLOY BARRETT

11 MS. BARRETT: I want to ditto the previous
12 speakers and just to make a little cost comparison
13 because we're in a global economic crisis right now
14 and in this country. All of the states in this nation
15 are in deficit spending and do not know where they're
16 going to get the money for their health and education
17 needs.

18 The federal government is going to spend,
19 just for starters, the \$4 billion, but that does not
20 include the decontamination, decommissioning and
21 cleanup of all of this afterwards.

22 So where are we going to have any money
23 left for the basic human needs that all of us aspire
24 to, health, education, and money to put out the fires
25 that are going to burn up our forests because of

1 putting it into this resource?

2 I implore you not to go forward with this
3 project. It will destroy, it will damage human needs,
4 and it will not serve any useful purpose for
5 humanity. No more bombs.

6 The other thing I wanted to say is that I
7 really commend the young people who came here tonight,
8 and I appreciate so much their voices in this process.

9 The question never was answered earlier why
10 were the citizens and the people, the Native
11 Americans, the Hispanics, and the rest of the people
12 being affected, all of our citizens being affected,
13 were not brought in before this started. The process
14 is a long process and now we are at the last minute
15 and the last phase of it, and it's almost a done deal.

16 MR. BROWN: Peter Neils. Russell Means
17 will follow you.

18 COMMENTS BY PETER NEILS

19 MR. NEILS: My name is Peter Neils, and I
20 don't have any real expertise in nuclear issues, and I
21 think that's the case for a lot of us, but I do have
22 some common sense and a sense of decency, and I think
23 that there is a silent majority of Americans that
24 think that it's morally reprehensible to incinerate
25 women and children, and that is what this is really

1 about.

2 I am familiar with the NEPA process. I
3 have testified at numerous NEPA-mandated hearings on
4 forest-related issues. I think that the NEPA process
5 masquerades as an objective process, but it is a tool
6 of policymakers. The reason that public comment comes
7 fairly late in the process is because the project has
8 a head of steam, and I have rarely seen projects
9 turned around as a result of the public comment,
10 though I have on occasion seen that.

11 When were you at RPI, Mike? I grew up in
12 Troy, and it occurs to me that around the same time
13 you were at RPI, I was invited by our government to
14 take part in an activity which I found to be morally
15 reprehensible, which was in Vietnam. I had a real
16 tough decision to make at that time because I was just
17 a kid, I just dropped out of college, and it was like
18 now you're one of them.

19 What I did was I concluded that it was more
20 important to decline to participate than not face the
21 difficulties that I anticipated facing if I did that.
22 So I declined to participate, and I think that
23 revolution starts that way.

24 What I'm going to invite you to do and Jay
25 and the other DOE folks that are here is why don't you

1 start a revolution here tonight? Why don't you just
2 take off that name tag and devote your lives to peace
3 and stop this crap?

4 MR. BROWN: Russell Means who will be
5 followed Seeley Soloman.

6 COMMENTS BY RUSSELL MEANS

7 MR. MEANS: I am going to talk real quick.
8 I know my relatives. It is good to see all the sacred
9 colors of the human race here. I am an American
10 Indian, and everyone born in the western hemisphere,
11 is a Native American.

12 I have been involved here in New Mexico on
13 numerous occasions on constitutional issues. I even
14 ran for governor for a while last year until the
15 demopublicans wouldn't accept my petitions.

16 But at any rate, what I ran on essentially
17 was the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo which means I ran
18 on the U.S. Constitution, and I ran on the New Mexico
19 State Constitution.

20 I encourage every one of you to read the
21 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo because what it says, and
22 it is recognized by the United States of America and
23 its Constitution, and the State Constitution which I
24 have also read, reaffirms it. What it says is that
25 New Mexico, the land, the water, the air, everything

1 in New Mexico is for New Mexicans. It is not the
2 public interest.

3 So NEPA, by the way, I want you to know, is
4 illegal and unconstitutional in this state, and so is
5 LANL, so are your bases and so are your labs,
6 everything. So the Bureau of Land Management, the
7 Department of Forestry, all of them, and the Bureau of
8 Indian Affairs, are welcome to leave according to the
9 United States Constitution.

10 I am not kidding you, Article 6 of the U.S.
11 Constitution reinforces the Treaty of Guadalupe
12 Hidalgo. That is the tool. Now, your elected
13 representatives including your governor refuse to live
14 up to the State Constitution, the United States
15 Constitution and the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.
16 That is a violation of their oath of office. You can
17 go to a federal judge and have them removed from
18 office for violating the U.S. Constitution and their
19 oath of office.

20 This is fact. This is not fantasy. If you
21 have the spine to stand up for the U.S. Constitution
22 and therefore for the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, you
23 can stop this insanity.

24 I refuse to talk to the insane. I have
25 been talking to the insane, attempting to talk to the

1 insane, and it has only gotten worse in this country.
2 And I have got 37 years of activism.

3 So I'm talking to you. Employ the Treaty
4 of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and this thing belongs exactly
5 where it will go, and that is to fantasy land. By the
6 way, that is where these people live, and I have no
7 respect for anyone who violates the Constitution of
8 the United States, and that goes for your congressmen
9 and your senators and your governor.

10 MR. BROWN: Seeley Soloman to be followed by
11 Linda Hibbs.

12 COMMENTS BY SEELEY SOLOMAN

13 MS. SOLOMON: Thanks, Russell. You got my
14 blood pressure moving.

15 Well, I am against any more weapons of mass
16 destruction, plutonium pit factories, the resurrection
17 of Rocky Flats which blew itself up. Not here, not in
18 Carlsbad, not anywhere, for the following reasons.

19 One, we are the victims. There being no
20 enemies, there is just all of us living without
21 boundaries in nature. Enough suffering.

22 There are already 10,000 plus nukes, 20,000
23 more plutonium pits able to incinerate all of us many
24 times over. Enough suffering and enough threats.
25 We've spent trillions of dollars so far to push

1 ourselves to the brink of extinction. It is insane to
2 work for our own annihilation while the alternative
3 is to just live in peace. Enough suffering.

4 Since 9/11, it is clear that the law of
5 karma which says what goes around comes around is very
6 much alive and functioning. In other words, make more
7 weapons, expect to get them back in your face.
8 Disarm. Enough suffering.

9 Well, I have to skip over the 199 other
10 reasons because of time limitations.

11 Now, I propose that we solve the present
12 nuclear arms mess by instituting a government subsidy
13 program like the one where farmers are paid not to
14 plant certain crops but teams of very highly skilled
15 folks and highly trained folks will be paid to work at
16 the Lab but not to build anything. They can play golf
17 until they get bored and start to think of something 18
useful to do.

19 My idea was to adapt present cars on the
20 road to get more miles per gallon because that would 21
impact carbon emissions and slow global warming. Even
22 if they don't come up with something useful that is
23 okay to do, at least there won't be any waste to clean
24 up forever.

25 MR. BROWN: Linda Hibbs, followed by

1 Elliott Skinner.

2 COMMENTS BY LINDA HIBBS

3 MS. HIBBS: Along with these remarks I will
4 be submitting a statement about failures in the EIS
5 statement, matters that are not properly addressed or
6 erroneous reasoning.

7 Having spoken at many hearings over the
8 years, I see now that these events are sham events.
9 Yes, we see small changes such as modifications to
10 WIPP that may make it a safer depository and testimony
11 to support ongoing and new lawsuits. But serious
12 debate on our nuclear weapons programs have been
13 marginalized, and the range of discourse and decision
14 making circumscribed.

15 Yet power, I claim here, resides with those
16 of us who speak outside the discourse and decision
17 making of these agencies who implement nuclear policy
18 in the United States. Why do I say this? Because
19 there is a growing coalition of persons around the
20 world who say no to these policies.

21 This next part is really the heart of my
22 testimony because I have been really struggling to
23 understand how we got here, all of us in this room. I
24 am really trying to boil it down because of the three
25 minutes, and it comes down to two words that I will

1 stand on, ruthlessness and religious piety.

2 There is a willingness to do away with
3 people, and a kind of perverse kind of religious piety
4 that I believe characterizes our history, our
5 character as a people. That is, a nuclear weapons
6 program is part of a larger legacy. We have been
7 willing to exterminate others for short-term profits
8 from the very beginning of our country's history as
9 seen in our genicidal policies toward Native
10 Americans.

11 With two great nuclear blasts, a large
12 portion of the population of two cities in Japan were
13 incinerated or made to suffer in ways we do not
14 comprehend.

15 Recently, we have caused the death of
16 hundreds of thousands of Iraqis through the use of our
17 weapons and the induction of disease. Handing out
18 blankets with smallpox virus to Native Americans or
19 intentionally destroying the grids that allow water to
20 be purified for delivery to Iraqis are two events of
21 one narrative in our history.

22 We clothe ourselves now in the sham cloak
23 of being God's messengers. Our current President-
24 select, George Bush, has raised this denial to a new
25 level of candor.

1 Again, this willingness to do away with
2 others combined with religious piety, our proposals
3 for new weapons programs as we occupy and attack Iraq
4 or claiming Iraq had weapons of mass destruction, and
5 as we attempt to diffuse the nuclear agendas of North
6 Korea and Pakistan and Iran have given our hypocrisy a
7 new transparency in the eyes of others in the world.

8 We want low yield weapons, earth
9 penetrating weapons, enhanced radiation weapons, and
10 agent defeat weapons to target more precisely
11 underground bunkers and stocks of chemical and
12 biological weapons. Yes, I can hear Defense Rumsfeld
13 saying right now, "These are more compassionate."

14 Remember how we plowed live Iraqi soldiers
15 into their trenches with giant bulldozers? This is
16 our small-scale compassion.

17 The truth is that we are too willing to
18 murder others, and this dark nature is now projected
19 onto others, an intent that is our own intent. The
20 real dangers that exist in the world could be
21 contained better in other ways.

22 Yes, the process is corrupt. The
23 corruption is at this hearing. This process is an
24 example of social control that subverts our democratic
25 institutions. We see it in our substance as a people

1 and increasingly soulless people whose piety is hollow
2 as the most fervent among us use their faith to
3 exclude others.

4 Finally, there is no sanity in these new
5 proposals for a nuclear weapons programs, and suicide
6 best names the policy that pursues nuclear weapons,
7 old and new.

8 MR. BROWN: Elliott Skinner and Amy
9 Williams who is next.

10 COMMENTS BY ELLIOTT SKINNER

11 MR. SKINNER: Several people have
12 questioned why we're meeting here in this small room.
13 It occurs to me that there may be some significant
14 connection between the purpose of this installation
15 here, gambling, and the facilities at Los Alamos.
16 Each of these rest upon a disintegration of society,
17 upon fear, upon insecurity, upon poverty, and their
18 products are empty, they only serve to concentrate
19 wealth to fewer and fewer hands.

20 I was reminded when we heard remarks about
21 "The Secretary will decide," what Vlaslov Hobbel told
22 us. He questions whether the Soviet Union was ever a
23 Marxist country. He said it was bureaucratic
24 totalitarianism. That is what we have here. "The
25 Secretary will decide." Can you believe it? The

1 Secretary of a bureaucracy will decide.

2 Now I know that reflects the words of our
3 president. "I will decide when we will go to Iraq."
4 This is totalitarian, and this is what we are faced
5 with here.

6 Both the laboratories and the casino deal
7 in gambling. For many, many years the Laboratory
8 dealt in a big wager, the wager of deterrence. We all
9 know about that. There was also a claim that nuclear
10 weapons would never be used as first strike weapons.

11 Everything has changed now. The September
12 2002 posture statement, national strategy statement
13 has made everything clear, and many other documents.

14 The work of the laboratories is very
15 different now. The work of the laboratories now is to
16 make weapons to be used to kill people, not to deter
17 war.

18 The work up there is different. The pit
19 facility increases this. This morning in the "New
20 Mexican," our distinguished senator said, "Well, we
21 have decided that Carlsbad would be the place."

22 I think I know why just looking around this
23 room. I think I know why they don't want to build a
24 pit facility next to a city where 8,000 people showed
25 up in the streets on February 15. They don't want to

1 build a pit facility with people who know about what
2 is going on.

3 Senator Dominici said, "Carlsbad stepped up
4 to the plate." Well, I was at those hearings in
5 Albuquerque when the Senator came, the only time I
6 have ever seen him at one of these hearings. He sat
7 there with his eyes two-thirds closed. For some
8 reason, he was a little irritated with the mayor of
9 Carlsbad that day and the mayor of Carlsbad came
10 forward. I didn't know what the word grovel meant
11 until I saw that poor man groveling and pleading with
12 the senator to let them have this facility so they
13 could have jobs.

14 I think this may be a bold proposal, but I
15 think even though we're all invested a little bit and
16 not in our back yard, it might be better for the pit
17 facility to be here because we're here to respond to
18 them. And it might be better for Lockheed Martin to
19 take over the laboratories.

20 For years now, the laboratories had this
21 aura of an academic institution. It has had this
22 claim that they do big time science. This is not
23 true. It is an explosive manufacturing facility with
24 low level science. The science is low level because
25 they have to operate in secret, they don't have peer

1 review, and it is pitiful science. If you think it is
2 not, ask yourself how many Nobel prizes have gone to
3 our national laboratories.

4 My final point is: Not here, nowhere, no
5 way.

6 MR. BROWN: Amy Williams will be followed
7 by David Alexi who is next.

8 COMMENTS BY AMY WILLIAMS

9 MS. WILLIAMS: My name is Amy Williams. I
10 have a little demonstration. This is my assistant
11 Becky. I have in my hand a jar of BB's. This one BB
12 represents all of the fire power that was used in
13 World War II including the bombs that were dropped on
14 Hiroshima and Nagasaki. (Demonstration of one BB
15 dropped into bowl.) That is it.

16 This jar represents just the nuclear power
17 that is in the world today. 32,000 nuclear weapons.
18 Listen. (Jar full of BBs dropped into bowl.)

19 They estimated that at Hiroshima in the
20 time that it takes to turn off and turn on a light
21 switch, 40,000 people were incinerated instantly. If
22 you do some simple math, 32,000 nuclear weapons in the
23 world right now could incinerate 1.3 billion people
24 instantly.

25 That is why I say, no new bomb factory,

1 nowhere, no way. One-sixth of the world's population.
2 No new bomb factory, nowhere, no way. Thank you.

3 MR. BROWN: David Alexi Hernandez and
4 Francine Pena are next.

5 COMMENTS BY DAVID ALEXI HERNANDEZ

6 MR. HERNANDEZ: My name is David Alexi
7 Hernandez, and I am reading this on behalf of Ford
8 Stone, a resident in Carlsbad.

9 "Dear editor and fellow citizens: I'm sure
10 that most of you have seen the grainy black and white
11 film of frightened school children crawling under
12 their desk practicing 'duck and cover.' I was one of
13 those kids. I lived in Laurel, Maryland, halfway
14 between Washington and Baltimore from 1948 to 1959.

15 "Another civil defense exercise was for us
16 to file out of our classrooms into the windowless
17 hall, there to crouch down huddling along the halls,
18 arms over our heads.

19 "We now know that these exercises were
20 utterly incapable of saving our lives but were
21 instituted by the government to give us the illusion
22 that it was doing its job to protect us from harm.

23 "My dad was Chief of Auxiliary Police at
24 the time, and one of his jobs was to coordinate the
25 town's civil defense. From an early age, I got to see

1 and ponder over blast and fallout radii maps.

2 "Folks with limited imaginations could make
3 up for their deficient comprehension of the
4 consequences of nuclear war by reading the popular
5 writings of Phil Wiley. His 'Tomorrow, Tomorrow,
6 Tomorrow' begins with a woman standing with a babe in
7 her arms staring out the window at the very moment a
8 multi-megaton bomb goes off. The baby takes a pound
9 of glass in its stomach, the image of which is still
10 as vivid in my head as the day I first read it.

11 "This kind of writing has its effect. I
12 can't count the nightmares of nuclear war that I had
13 during this time. Shortly thereafter, I was at the
14 University in Washington, D.C. during the Cuban
15 Missile Crisis. I can claim firsthand experience of
16 life on ground zero under the umbrella of a defense
17 policy based on a balance of terror.

18 "What is my point? Nuclear weapons have
19 never brought us national security. Life under a
20 regime of mutually assured destruction is not peace
21 and it is not security, not then and not now. Thank
22 God that we Americans had the comparative luxury of
23 having an adversary that was on the opposite side of
24 the globe giving us 30 minutes or so to figure out if
25 it was a bunch of intercontinental ballistic missiles

1 coming at us and not a flock of geese.

2 "Not so for present day India and Pakistan.
3 Each imagined that by developing the bomb it too would
4 enhance its security by having the capacity to finally
5 annihilate the other, but because they share a long
6 common border, they live every moment in the
7 frightening regime of launch on warning.

8 "So for as long as they both have nuclear
9 weapons, they are condemned to live ready at a
10 moment's notice to push the button to instant karma.
11 No time for dispassionate analysis, no time to figure
12 out what their sensor systems have detected is the
13 real thing or not.

14 "Tell me, do you think the population of
15 these countries feel national security now?

16 MS. FRANCINE PENA: (Continuation of Ford
17 Stone written comments.)

18 "This nation has spent trillions developing
19 its stockpile of nukes and their delivery system. It
20 will spend billions more in cleaning up the toxic mess
21 left behind from this gargantuan, if misguided,
22 effort.

23 "The recipient of the megatons of money
24 cost by this strategy has been and still is a vast
25 civilian and military bureaucracy which, threatened

1 with the cessation of their meal ticket, shamelessly
2 wraps itself in a flag that invokes the shibboleth of
3 the national security, and even yet, long after the
4 Cold War is over, tries to play upon our darkest, most
5 atavistic fears.

6 "Get real. Fortunately, there is
7 realization growing in the minds of many nationwide
8 that this policy has been nothing short of a debacle
9 for this country.

10 "Every billion we've put into nuclear
11 weapons and their delivery systems has been a billion
12 we've not had for the exploration and development of
13 other, more measured, more controllable, more
14 reasonable defense options.

15 "Note: These options do not include the
16 recent effort on the part of the current
17 administration to create a new class of mini or
18 tactical nukes. These so-called more useable nuclear
19 weapons if allowed to be developed will dangerously 20
blur the presently clear distinction between
21 conventional and nuclear war, and if used in battle,
22 have the awful potential of sending us careening down
23 the slippery slope to full-scale nuclear Armageddon.

24 "These putative bunker-buster nukes, if
25 ever used, will once again loft tons of radioactive 40

1 fallout into the stratosphere to literally bring down
2 illness and death the world over.

3 "It is estimated by reputable experts that
4 the latent cancer fatalities caused by just two
5 decades of above-ground nuclear testing alone is in
6 the hundreds of thousands, some say millions.

7 "President Reagan said it best: Nuclear
8 war cannot be won and must never be fought. To be
9 sure, our nation does need to provide adequate means
10 for our common defense. Weapons of mass destruction,
11 however, are not the answer. If hammering away at
12 this deadly myth brands me a zealot, then so be it."

13 MR. BROWN: Astrid Webster and Dominique
14 Mazeaud.

15 MS. WEBSTER: I give my time to Greg Mello.

16 COMMENTS BY GREG MELLO

17 MR. MELLO: My name is Greg Mello. Most of
18 us know by now that these hearings provide for us an
19 opportunity to speak of our fears, speak of our hopes,
20 speak to each other. They don't necessarily provide
21 such a good opportunity to communicate these to, as
22 Elliott so cogently pointed out, the actual decision
23 maker. That is a very important line, that the
24 Secretary of Energy will be making this decision.

25 I think we should all be very grateful to

1 the representatives of the Department of Energy who
2 have come a long way here to talk to us to help
3 illuminate the situation that we're in now. We are
4 part of the dialectical process with them, and I think
5 that I would like to address my remarks to our own
6 community, so many of whom are here tonight.

7 In many ways, this is like a reunion. The
8 faces, the hearts that fought previous proposals for a
9 pit facility in the early 1990s successfully, many of
10 them are here tonight.

11 We have to ask ourselves is our opposition
12 trenchant enough, is it principled enough, is the
13 reason we're here tonight fighting this facility
14 because we haven't found the right words or the right
15 commitment or the right political organization or the
16 commitment to each other that has allowed this to
17 reach this point where we're now seeing this again.

18 We are here in a position, in a posture of
19 supplication to the Department of Energy, addressing
20 our remarks to them, to these good people who have
21 come a long way and who have to hear things which
22 aren't that pleasant for them. But I am quite sure
23 that the emotional tone of this meeting will be lost
24 as it goes up the chain of command. It will be lost
25 long before it reaches the decision maker.

1 We have to take that struggle to the
2 decision makers. We have to take that struggle and
3 make it political. This is not exactly a political
4 forum. We have to self-organize to show ourselves and
5 to show the world that we are really capable of
6 powerful democracy, that we are able to take the power
7 that we need to get the policies that we want.

8 We can't just complain. We have to put our
9 lives, our bodies, our pocketbooks, our hearts on the
10 line if we're going to stop this. We have to be very
11 clear that while there are a few slivers of hope
12 legally and administratively, that is not going to be
13 the primary venue.

14 The problem is political. The problem is
15 lifting and clarifying the values that will kill this
16 facility. We can't do this on mere technical
17 arguments alone.

18 Let's go out of this hearing not as an
19 event that we have experienced, not as something which
20 is over, but as something which is beginning. I want
21 to ask whether we want to take this fight about this
22 facility which is just a very teeny part of a much
23 larger program and look at the entire program of which
24 it is a natural and even logical expression from
25 within that program.

1 If you don't fight the nuclear weapons
2 program of the United States as it is now, you can't
3 hope to successfully fight just a mere \$22 million
4 slice of it.

5 This means that we must work and study
6 nonviolent resistance. We must find the power within
7 us that our founding fathers found. John Adams said
8 committees of correspondence are a powerful machine
9 against tyranny. We have to find those machines,
10 those engines against tyranny, because we are in a
11 situation of tyranny.

12 Mild reforms on the fringes of democracy
13 are not where we are at right now. We have to be
14 aware of our situation. We cannot be unreasonably
15 optimistic. Our resistance must actually be
16 whole-hearted or we will lose our democracy altogether
17 if we have any left at all.

18 This modern pit facility and the program
19 which spawns it, many people would say who have looked
20 at this deeply, including myself, that it is not
21 actually compatible with civil society as we know it.
22 A long time ago, a lawyer for the Atomic Energy
23 Commission when he retired, he said, "You know it was
24 a separate sovereignty. It was a peculiar sovereignty.
25 It had its own airplanes, its own security force, it

1 was a sovereignty which could bring to an end all
2 other sovereignties either peacefully or violently."

3 Well, we don't want it to end the other
4 sovereignties peacefully or violently.

5 There is a struggle right now in New Mexico
6 as to whether even the State of New Mexico has the
7 sovereign right to regulate its own environment. This
8 is taking place in silence. Our governor is
9 completely silent about it.

10 We need to take this struggle to our
11 elected leaders, and we must self-organize as much as
12 we can within our churches, within our clubs, within
13 the organizations that are working on this problem so
14 that we aren't isolated individuals against the state
15 which could be pretty much the definition of fascism.

16 Thank you.

17 COMMENTS BY DOMINIQUE MAZEAUD

18 MS. MAZEAUD: My name is Dominique Mazeaud,
19 and I gave most of my time to Greg very happily, but I
20 want to say, as you can hear, I'm not from this land.
21 I became an American citizen to fight this terrible
22 thing which is nuclear power or nuclear proliferation
23 madness.

24 At this time I'm hearing a lot of my
25 American friends so frustrated they want to leave,

1 they want to move to Mexico, they want to move to
2 Europe, they want to leave this place, but I'm not
3 going to leave this place because I have found my
4 community here.

5 This is an incredible place, and I know
6 what Greg is saying. We can do it together, so let's
7 continue this energy, and let's really remember that
8 the comments are due on August 5 which is the day
9 before August 6 which is the anniversary of Hiroshima.
10 Don't forget that. You will put these two dates
11 together, and you will forward this work that we
12 initiated tonight. Thank you.

13 MR. BROWN: Lisa Law is next and she will
14 be followed by Carlos Mora.

15 COMMENTS BY LISA LAW

16 MS. LAW: My name is Lisa Law, and I do not
17 want there to be any nuclear proliferation here in New
18 Mexico or in any part of the United States.

19 The Hopi prophecy that is carved on the
20 rock by Old Ariabi shows that there is a way of peace
21 and there is a way of total destruction. If we allow
22 this to happen here or anyplace in the United States,
23 we are asking for the entire world to be destroyed.

24 We can't afford that. We can't have
25 destruction. We must have life.

1 I want to give my time over to other
2 people, but I want to make sure that you understand
3 that I and all these people in the room do not want
4 this to happen. We should take this money that is
5 used for this for educating our children, for creating
6 peace in the world, and for not allowing others to
7 take our rights from us.

8 We must stand together and voice our voice
9 in more ways than this. We must, as he said, stand
10 up, lay down, and make decisions that are powerful
11 that we not allow this to happen. Thank you very
12 much.

13 COMMENTS BY CARLOS MORA

14 MR. MORA: I have a request for the people
15 from the Department of the Environment, and it's an
16 addition to the MPF EIS. I would like a listing of
17 all the corporations capable of building a modern pit
18 facility today and the stockholder names because I
19 believe those are the people pushing for this project.

20 Like somebody once said, just follow the
21 money trail. It is not the people of the United
22 States that wants this facility. It is the same
23 people that control the wealth in this country that
24 are making the decision for us.

25 We just want to know who they are. We just

1 want to see their names again and let them know that
2 we know who they are.

3 So, please, could you add a list of all the
4 corporations capable of building these facilities and
5 their names or the stockholders of those corporation.
6 I wouldn't be surprise to see Bush and his friends in
7 the listing of the names.

8 Also, I have a proposal for the United
9 States Government. Why don't we just sign a permanent
10 peace treaty with every country in the world, and then
11 we don't have to build this stuff. Then what we can
12 do, we can use the billions of dollars to restore the
13 environment and to create opportunity for people to
14 build a better world. Instead of focusing on the fear
15 and the weapons and the violence that we are creating,
16 why don't we focus on the peace and making peace with
17 countries in the world and making peace with
18 ourselves. We don't need these weapons. We don't
19 want them, nowhere, no way.

20 The last thing I have to say, and this is
21 for everybody, the way I see it is that this is an
22 opportunity for people to come together. This modern
23 pit facility is like a reason for us once and for all
24 to come together because we are separate from each
25 other.

1 It is time for us to come together because
2 the problems of the world are not going to be solved
3 by one individual anymore. This is a group action.
4 We need to work together collectively. That is the
5 only way we can solve it. Thank you very much.

6 MR. BROWN: Elizabeth West will be followed
7 by Michael Pacheco.

8 COMMENTS BY ELIZABETH WEST

9 MS. WEST: My name is Elizabeth West, and I
10 actually am going to give my official three minutes to
11 Becky La Dolce. However, I do want to thank Holmes
12 Brown for attempting and succeeding most of the time
13 at being a pretty good facilitator.

14 I am suggesting to Mike Mitchell and Jay
15 Rose and Jerry Friedman and George Allen to talk
16 amongst yourselves because I've heard, and it is kind
17 of a truism, that when you talk out loud about an
18 issue, you begin to change your mind. I believe you
19 will be hearing many of our comments tonight, mulling
20 them over. So think about them, yes, but talk about
21 them with each other.

22 You're good people, you're smart -- I mean
23 you're lucky enough to be in New Mexico right now --
24 and you have heard some very, very good comments. I
25 want to make my comments just as good as some of the

1 ones I have heard, so I'm going to write in. Thanks
2 very much.

3 However, I will go on record as saying I'm
4 opposed to the modern pit facility, MPF, most perfect
5 -- loving situation. Thank you.

6 I really mean what I say. Think about it.
7 Change your mind.

8 MR. BROWN: Next will be Michael Pacheco,
9 COMMENTS BY MICHAEL PACHECO

10 MR. PACHECO: Good evening everybody. My
11 name is Michael Pacheco, and I'm totally against any
12 nuclear pit facility anywhere in this world. It is
13 totally against life, it's totally against creation.
14 We need to take care of each other, our health, our
15 education.

16 Plutonium has been created for at least 60
17 years, and it is in our water supplies. Our
18 government hasn't told us about it, Rocky Flats, Los
19 Alamos. It's probably Cochiti Dam. We don't need
20 it.
21 We don't want it.

22 There have been good hearts here, great
23 minds. We don't want it. Our government is trying to
24 force it upon us through fear, and it is not going to
25 work. We have to go beyond that fear.

26 There have been comments about we have to

1 step up. We have to put our lives on the line because
2 our lives are on the line, our children,
3 grandchildren, all life is on the line now. This is
4 so anti-life we have to work together and say no more.

5 There are men in power that are not looking
6 at the rest of humanity. I think that there are
7 terrorists that -- I feel like our land here is
8 terrorized right now. We have to fight that. We
9 cannot permit terrorism on our children and on our
10 people here.

11 There are solutions. We have to disarm.
12 We have to disarm our fear. We need to start growing
13 healthy food, cleaning up our water, purifying our
14 minds. We just have so much work to do. We can't
15 afford to invest dollars into destructive ways. We
16 have done it too long.

17 We could have been naive at one time or
18 fearful of speaking up, but that is not the case now.
19 Everybody seems to be quite educated on the problem.
20 So let's work together, no pits, nowhere, no how, no
21 more.

22 MR. BROWN: Becky La Dolce followed by Jay
23 Coghlan.

24 COMMENTS BY MS. BECKY LA DOLCE

25 MS. LA DOLCE: I would like to thank

1 Elizabeth for granting me the remainder of her
2 minutes. And thank you Jay Rose for returning to the
3 room. I noticed that you were in and out. I'm glad
4 you're here to hear our comments.

5 Okay, 35 years ago today in 1968, the U.S.
6 and 60 other nations ratified the Nuclear
7 Nonproliferation Treaty. Today we are talking about
8 building more nuclear weapons. The MPF would violate
9 U.S. nuclear nonproliferation commitments, and there
10 is no scientific basis for replacing pits in our
11 existing nuclear arsenal when the half life of
12 Plutonium 239 is 24,000 years.

13 The MPF EIS does not identify any problems
14 affecting the reliability of pits. The EIS discusses
15 a best case scenario. The best case scenario states
16 that the MPF would result in the death of nine
17 employees from radiation-induced cancer. The fates of
18 these nine, minimum, blue collar workers would be
19 decided by white collar workers.

20 In addition, best case scenario, the EIS
21 states that nonworker radiation-induced cancer
22 fatalities are slim to none, that surface water will
23 not be contaminated, and that fires are not expected
24 to present a significant risk. The EIS needs to look
25 at not only best case scenario but real life scenario.

1 The MPF will assume the role of the Rocky
2 Flats plant. In 1989 the FBI raided the plant to
3 investigate allegations such as the dumping of
4 radioactive chemicals into public drinking water and
5 secretly burning plutonium waste materials. When the
6 plant was closed, 1.3 tons of plutonium were missing.
7 It takes 10 pounds roughly to make a nuclear bomb and
8 microscopic amounts to cause cancer.

9 Plutonium spontaneously ignites in air.
10 Between 1966 and 1969 alone, Rocky Flats Fire
11 Department responded to 164 fires. Other fires were
12 extinguished without calling out the fire department,
13 each time releasing radiation into the air.

14 1957, a fire released an estimated 100
15 pounds of plutonium. In 1965 in another fire, more
16 than 400 employees sustained substantial radiation
17 doses. Four years later a fire in the same building
18 nearly created a criticality incident. Had the fire
19 not been brought under control, Denver would have been
20 covered in radioactive material.

21 In 1958, 3,000 barrels of plutonium-
22 contaminated oil were stored in the open near Rocky
23 Flats when managers knew for decades that they were
24 leaking plutonium. 1972, soil samples taken two miles
25 east of Rocky Flats contained concentrations 250 times

1 higher than background levels.

2 In 1981, the County Health Department
3 reported a significantly higher incidence of cancer
4 among Denver area residents. April 1990, DOA stated
5 that there is enough plutonium accumulated in the
6 ventilation ducts at Rocky Flats to produce seven
7 nuclear bombs.

8 Roughly 1,300 former Rocky Flats workers
9 have applied to the Energy Employees Occupational
10 Illness Compensation Program Act. I'm under the
11 understanding that about six people get processed per
12 month.

13 Rocky Flats was plagued by poor management
14 in their continued evasion of environmental and health
15 laws. Given these facts and that recent autopsies
16 have found plutonium in the bodies of people who never
17 worked at LANL, that studies have documented higher
18 cancer rates in Los Alamos County, that LANL was sued
19 for ignoring air emissions limits for five years, and
20 that plutonium has been found in organic lettuce grown
21 40 miles away from LANL, we cannot allow another
22 nuclear bomb factory to be built anywhere.

23 It is time for the Grand Jury testimony to
24 be released so that we know what really went on at
25 Rocky Flats, and it is time for the U.S. to be a

1 leader in national disarmament and to stop exposing
2 its citizens to the dangers of the nuclear weapons
3 industry. No new bomb factory, nowhere, no way.

4 MR. BROWN: Douglas Hughes will follow Jay.

5 COMMENTS BY JAY COGHLAN

6 MR. COGHLAN: I work for an outfit called
7 Nuclear Watch of New Mexico. We will be entering
8 comprehensive comments when the time comes.

9 I'm going to try and rip through some of
10 the NNSA slides that you all showed. I have a faxed
11 copy from the Pantex version, so fortunately I can
12 refer to them, and obviously I'll seek to essentially
13 refute some things.

14 Now to start with, the slide that was
15 entitled "Background," the statement is made -- I'm
16 paraphrasing -- but that the United States is the only
17 nuclear weapons power without the capability to
18 manufacture replacement plutonium pits.

19 Now this is absolutely baloney. This is
20 the NNSA saying that, for example, Pakistan and India
21 can produce plutonium pits and we can't. Again, that
22 is baloney. What is a fact is that the U.S. has a set
23 of criteria that is just head and shoulders above any
24 other country governing its specifications for
25 plutonium pits.

1 However you may feel about plutonium pits,
2 you can probably guess how I feel about them, but,
3 yes, indeed, it's a good thing that the U.S has these
4 extremely stringent standards. But this business that
5 the U.S. which the DOE folks are telling Congress that
6 we can't produce a plutonium pit is for the third time
7 absolute baloney.

8 Jay is a good man, he shares my first name
9 for starters, but Jay and others know full well that
10 Los Alamos has had historic pit production capability
11 since 1943. They took their pit and blew it up in
12 1945, and they have had continuous pit production
13 capability ever since.

14 So hopefully I have laid that one to rest,
15 and these good folks here will take that message back
16 to the Secretary.

17 But as an addendum, I would request that
18 you all ask dear old Spencer to offer an errata to
19 Congress clarifying this matter, and quit saying
20 things like the U.S. can't produce a plutonium pit.
21 Absolute rubbish.

22 I had about 12 more slides I was going to
23 address.

24 (Several unidentified people offered time
25 to Mr. Coghlan.)

1 I will cut some things out because it looks
2 like I have to. Moving on to the slide of "Mission
3 Need." Now, the first thing that is stated, again,
4 paraphrasing, is that the modern pit facility is
5 needed because the Nuclear Posture Review says so.
6 Okay, that is circular justification.

7 For those who don't know, this beautiful
8 document called the Nuclear Posture Review, formulated
9 without any public input, of course, and known to the
10 public only because it was leaked, but this Posture
11 Review did such cute things as expand the potential
12 nuclear targeting list from two countries to seven. I
13 would add six now. Presumably Iraq is off the list.
14 Hope it is.

15 It did other cute things like expanding the
16 rationale for nuclear targeting from being only
17 against other nuclear threats. It expanded that
18 rationale to include perceived chemical and biological
19 threats as well. Further, these threats do not have
20 to be concretely demonstrated.

21 So let's offer a hypothetical situation in
22 which an imperialist government was to cherry pick
23 intelligence, skew and cook the books their way in
24 order to justify some kind of aggressive action of
25 some kind. And of course I'm dealing only with

1 hypotheticals, and I should add that there are two
2 other things that need to be combined with this, that
3 there is a larger national security doctrine that
4 explicitly states that the U.S. assumes unto itself
5 the right to preemptive strikes whenever deemed
6 necessary, and per the Nuclear Posture Review this
7 very much includes preemptive nuclear strikes as well.

8 So add all of this up together, and I
9 attempt to bring it back down to the specifics of this
10 modern pit facility.

11 Well, okay, great. We've got these broad
12 nuclear national security policies calling for
13 preemptive strikes that also call for the modern pit
14 facilities, and the EIS for the pit facility
15 essentially justifies the need for it because of the
16 Nuclear Posture Review. Again, circular reasoning.

17 Under "Mission Need," it goes on to say
18 that one of the specific needs is under the subject of
19 capacity, capacity being the number of pits to be
20 produced in the future. The modern pit facility will
21 be capable of up to 500 pits a year. A 1997 study
22 says that actually the glove box lines could be
23 produced in a modular fashion.

24 The point here is that it could be
25 infinitely extended at least theoretically. So we

1 kind of have an interim ceiling of say 500 pits a
2 year, but it could be expanded beyond that.

3 I note that one of the slides touts the
4 fact that the modern pit facility production capacity
5 will be small in comparison to Rocky Flats. Well,
6 again, engaging in hypotheticals, pretend that I am a
7 domestic abuser, a wife beater. Now this is like
8 saying I'm not going to beat my wife again, or I'm not
9 going to have production levels close to Rocky Flats.

10 Well, so what? At the height of Rocky
11 Flats production producing up to 3,500 pits a year, we
12 actually had a Cold War going on. Now, we're going to
13 have a production rate of 500-plus with no theoretical
14 end to it, and no Cold War. I mean, it doesn't make
15 sense.

16 The second specific reason given under
17 "Mission Need" is this "agility," and in the document
18 the NNSA also uses the word "flexibility." I think
19 here we are getting into the true reason of why the
20 NNSA wants the modern pit facility so bad. This
21 agility, this flexibility, is to explicitly have the
22 capability of cranking out new designs.

23 Now, I assume most of you are well aware of
24 recent political legislative developments, but
25 specifically the robust nuclear penetrator has been

1 funded. The decade-old ban against mini nukes was
2 overturned.

3 So, yes, this pit facility would be very
4 attractive to the weaponeers in order to jump from pit
5 type to pit type to do various types simultaneously
6 and also to crank out those new designs.

7 Now, I never got off my first page. I need
8 to abbreviate my remarks. Others have referred to the
9 need for a protracted struggle. I want to underscore
10 that. Construction for this facility supposedly won't
11 begin until 2014. As others have pointed out, it is
12 inevitably a political struggle as well. Hang in
13 there over the long run. This facility very badly
14 needs to be defeated.

15 I wasn't able to touch upon the
16 Nonproliferation Treaty, but suffice it to say, there
17 could be no worse example to the rest of the world
18 concerning weapons of mass destruction than to build
19 this new super bomb plant.

20 And to close with some simple sloganeering,
21 no modern pit facility, nowhere, no way. Kill the
22 sucker.

23 MR. BROWN: I'll tell you what, a lot of
24 people have signed up, and I think if you don't mind,
25 we want to make sure that folks who have signed up

1 will have their opportunity to speak.

2 I would like Douglas Hughes to step
3 forward, and Monika Steinhoff to follow Douglas.

4 COMMENTS BY DOUGLAS HUGHES

5 MR. HUGHES: My name is Douglas Hughes. I
6 haven't been to a lot of the anti-nuclear activities
7 before in my life. I'm a medical doctor, practiced 25
8 years in Northern New Mexico, born in '47, so my whole
9 life has been spent under the nuclear pall.

10 It is pretty obvious that machine guns
11 didn't eliminate the killing of guns. It is also
12 obvious that the war to end all wars, the Second World
13 War, had no beneficial effects on the reduction of
14 wars in this world.

15 The nuclear deterrence that went on during
16 the Cold War has turned out to be perhaps a missed
17 opportunity in about '91 with the collapse of the
18 Soviet empire. The United States has been in a good
19 situation if it wanted to unilaterally suggest to
20 other lesser nuclear powers around the world to
21 eliminate nuclear weapons worldwide, but that won't
22 happen if we continue to make new weapons of this
23 type. So, of course, I would be against any type of
24 further production.

25 I guess I have two further points that I'll

1 make. One is, it is like a basic premise, you can't
2 overcome evil with more evil.

3 And then that gets onto our personal
4 choices, each of us. Before I went into medicine, I
5 was in chemistry and got a Master's Degree. Certainly
6 I could take those types of credentials and go to work
7 in some lab somewhere. Certainly I could work for
8 Sandia. But that is not the type of choice that I
9 think would be a good choice for me.

10 Eric Fromme has made that point pretty
11 strongly in his book, "The Art of Loving." There are
12 certain jobs that aren't worth working, and if enough
13 of us would not work those jobs it would be
14 beneficial. And that would apply to very many people
15 working at Los Alamos Labs and within our governmental
16 structures. Thank you much.

17 MR. BROWN: Monika Steinhoff, and Charles
18 Powell will follow.

19 COMMENTS BY MONIKA STEINHOFF

20 MS. STEINHOFF: There has been some
21 wonderful speeches up here, and I'm just going to add
22 a few remarks to that. First. I wanted to ask how
23 many of you are Los Alamos scientists or family
24 members or other employees of the Lab? I would like
25 you to raise your hands. Two, okay.

1 Well, I think that there are so few in a
2 way because they're pretty sure this is going to
3 happen, and there will be more jobs and all that
4 stuff.

5 While the rest of us are here because we've
6 been here at many, many hearings, I was at a lot of
7 the WIPP hearings, I think there is a sense of does it
8 really matter being here because WIPP went ahead. We
9 may have delayed it a little bit, but it is there, in
10 spite of the fact that the first group of scientists
11 who testified who were hired to study the situation
12 there quit because they did not want to lie about the
13 situation.

14 LANL and DOE hired another group of
15 scientists who were willing to lie about it. And now
16 there was a thing in the paper recently about how they
17 underestimated the corrosiveness of the salt. That is
18 very interesting because that is what the scientists
19 first stated.

20 I came to New Mexico actually when I was 5
21 in '47. My father was the main person who developed
22 the guidance systems. All those scientists came from
23 Germany to here, and they went to work here. My
24 father died very tragically. Probably there is a good
25 case that could be made that the CIA killed my father

1 because my father turned against the bomb at the end
2 of his life. My brother also died believing that, and
3 died mysteriously. So, there is a dark side to all of
4 this.

5 I think there are many people who have
6 worked for the Lab, including a man named Rosenblatt,
7 I think was his name, who spoke a year or two ago at
8 Los Alamos, it was after 9/11 and sometime in relation
9 to the fire, who said, "America has never had a bomb
10 explode here. Therefore, we are very insensitive."

11 Well, where I grew up in Germany I was
12 bombed many, many times, 13 times. But I survived,
13 but I still have nightmares and I was not -- I didn't
14 actually get bombed by a bomb, just all the places I
15 was in were bombed.

16 So when we bomb Iraq and places like that,
17 I feel it because I have been close enough to it. So
18 it is only one little element.

19 No one has mentioned here two things that I
20 think are also apropos. There have been some
21 excellent speakers who have addressed the urgency of
22 this matter. It is even more urgent than that. We
23 have not addressed all the environmental problems.

24 The weather has been going up and down.
25 The poles are melting. You can feel the ozone thinning

1 here, you can feel the intensity of the sun. If you
2 go out in the sun for a few hours, your head is
3 burning. There was a little unconscious experiment
4 that went on in my garden. I had a bowl of peat moss.
5 It burnt from the sun.

6 I think by 2010 this country will be broke
7 given what is going on right here. If this president
8 continues, there will be no money for this bomb, there
9 will be no money for all of us. We will be lucky to
10 survive. We will be lucky to have water to drink,
11 food to eat and all that stuff.

12 So I think that in a way that is a really
13 good thing because this is an evil that is affecting
14 everything in the world. Those terrorists only used
15 our own things, airplanes and box cutters. We have so
16 much more. They drop a little thing here. There is
17 so much danger in the United States. All these places
18 on this map are actually potential targets. It takes
19 nothing almost to create all these different
20 explosions.

21 God help us. We have to work together. No
22 pits, no nothing anywhere. Thank you.

23 MR. BROWN: Charles Powell, and Joni Arends
24 will follow Charles.

25 COMMENTS BY CHARLES POWELL

1 MR. POWELL: I'm Charles Powell, and I'm a
2 Veteran for Peace.

3 I used to raise tropical fish. Among the
4 things I learned from observing fish is the most
5 pugnacious, aggressive and violent fish are also the
6 most fearful.

7 Another observation: Fear would cause them
8 to do things that were not in their best interests.
9 Fear would cause them to panic and dash around madly
10 into rocks and other decorations in the tank and into
11 the glass sides of the aquarium. Sometimes fear would
12 even lead to their leaping from the water out of the
13 tank and onto the floor.

14 I have observed that the most fearful
15 people are also the most aggressive. I have also
16 found that fear motivates people to do things that are
17 clearly not in their best interests.

18 The United States is the undisputed only
19 remaining super power. We have the most sophisticated
20 weapons. We spend far more than any other country on
21 weapons. I have been reading that it is more than the
22 rest of the world combined.

23 So we don't have to fear overt actions of
24 other nation states. If there is anything to fear, it
25 is terrorists, and nuclear weapons will do nothing to

1 defend us from box cutters or people lighting fire to
2 their shoes.

3 So at a time that we should be working to
4 reduce nuclear weapons and to eventually eliminate
5 them altogether, we are going the opposite way. We
6 are not serving our best interests. We are instead
7 planning to put some weapons in space, we're planning
8 to make other weapons useable, and it is not in our
9 best interests.

10 It is not in our best interests to start
11 another Cold War. It is not in our best interests to
12 further pollute and contaminate the earth. It is not
13 in our best interests to squander the money that
14 should be applied to education and health care.

15 So I say, no modern pit facility, nowhere,
16 no way.

17 MR. BROWN: Joni Arends will be followed by
18 Kip Corneli.

19 COMMENTS BY JONI ARENDS

20 MS. JONI ARENDS: Good evening. My name is
21 Joni Arends and I'm with Concerned Citizens for
22 Nuclear Safety. I have 122 signed comment letters for
23 Mr. Jay Rose which I would like to present to you
24 tonight that begins "I strongly oppose the decision by
25 the Department of Energy to proceed to construct a

1 modern pit facility at any of the five proposed
2 sites."

3 I am just going to go through a couple of
4 different points. One thing that I have a question
5 about is whether or not this is a hearing or a
6 meeting, because on the letter that was sent out on
7 May 30, 2003, it says that this is a public meeting.
8 I believe under NEPA, because it is a major federal
9 action, that it would require a public hearing. So
10 that was a technical question that makes a difference
11 under RIPRA in terms of whether or not it is a
hearing 12 or a meeting.

13 And then I would also ask a question about
14 whether or not this meeting violates the spirit and 15
intent of the National Environmental Policy Act in
16 that despite conversations with Mr. Rose about the
17 size of this room and the need to change this room,
18 the site of this meeting maybe ten days ago, this was
19 not done, and this raises a lot of questions with
20 regard to a lot of the issues that many of you brought
21 up tonight about whether or not we are being limited
22 in our ability to be able to discuss these issues.

23 In going back to the hearing of the history
24 of CCNS for the last 15, years we have been able to
25 speak at these meetings for ten minutes as an

1 organization, and this evening in asking questions to
2 the representatives from the Department of Energy,
3 nobody remembers that, nobody remembers the 1-800
4 number where we were able to call up and say at 3:35 I
5 can come and speak because I have child care from this
6 time to this time, and I can come during this time and
7 be able to drive here, be able to give your testimony
8 and be able to leave.

9 We sat here for an hour before we were able
10 to speak, and this is problematic, and I want this to
11 be in the record, that we object to this change in DOE
12 policy that nobody seems to understand or has any
13 history or any memory that this change has taken place
14 and that the change took place without any input from
15 the public regarding this.

16 And so I just want this to be on the record
17 that we oppose the way that this meeting has been set
18 up, that there wasn't any acknowledgment to the people
19 here to be able to say, "DOE, this is what used to
20 happen," because that is something that happens with
21 the WIPP hearings or the WIPP meetings that we have
22 had. They call us up and they say, well, we are
23 thinking about these dates, and is this going to work
24 for you.

25 As many of you know, there has been three

1 major DOE things that have happened in the last ten
2 days, and I can't even tell you what they are, but
3 some of them included WIPP in this state. Anyway,
4 I'll stop with that.

5 We have very many substantive issues with
6 regard to the modern pit facility draft EIS and we
7 will make extensive comments to you. But one thing
8 that we are concerned about as well is that on July 9
9 at Northern New Mexico Community College, the Centers
10 for Disease Control may come and say that the
11 four-year project that they have been working on with
12 regard to a historical document review of LANL's
13 documents with regard to whether or not to conduct a
14 dose reconstruction -- let me just start that over.

15 Four years ago the CDC came to New Mexico
16 and said we are going to talk about whether or not we
17 need to get a dose reconstruction here with regard to
18 the historical emissions. And so what they did was
19 went through 40,000 or 50,000 boxes of documents, and
20 then some of the researchers have said that there is
21 enough information to go forward with respect to a
22 dose reconstruction.

23 And so what we understand is that there is
24 a possibility on the 9th that they're going to cancel
25 this project to go forward with a dose reconstruction.

1 So on one hand, the Department of Energy is saying we
2 want to bring a modern pit facility to Los Alamos, and
3 at the same time they say we want to cut our funding
4 that we're giving to CDC to conduct this does
5 reconstruction. So it is important for people to come
6 out on the 9th to Northern New Mexico Community
7 College, and there are fliers out here.

8 Then I just want to read one thing from the
9 document itself with regard to --

10 MR. BROWN: Somebody gave you an additional
11 three minutes, you've got about a minute left.

12 MS. ARENDS: Okay, on page 5-275, with
13 regard to Los Alamos site, under Cumulative Effects,
14 and this is hard to -- let me just go through it.
15 Under Resource Requirement Impacts, let me quote, "At
16 LANL both peakload electrical capacity and available
17 water capacity would be exceeded in the future
18 regardless of the addition of the MPF alternative.

19 "For all projected uses of electrical power
20 and water supply including non-LANL users over the
21 next 50 years, LANL would require approximately 120
22 percent of the current peakload capacity, 95 percent
23 of its total available capacity and 142 percent of the
24 available water capacity, compared to the no action
25 alternative," which still means bombs will be made at

1 Los Alamos. "Operation of the MPF alternative
2 producing 450 pits per year would result in a 36
3 percent increase in the total electrical energy
4 consumption, 44 percent in peakload electrical energy
5 consumption, and a 29.5 percent increase in water
6 consumption.

7 "For the near term, no electrical or water
8 resource capacity constraints are expected because
9 LANL operation demands have been well below projected
10 levels of within site capacity."

11 But then later on they talk about getting
12 San Juan-Chama water, and then they say they will need
13 to secure additional water rights and supply for its
14 remaining water customers.

15 So in that regard, CCNS says no new bomb
16 factory, nowhere, no way. Thank you.

17 MR. BROWN: Mr. Kip Cornell? Penelope
18 Malilz? David McGowan is next.

19 COMMENTS BY PENELOPE MALILZ

20 MS. MALILZ: My reaction to the possibility
21 of a new nuclear bomb factory is a loud no, nowhere,
22 no way. Instead of building modern pit facilities,
23 let's build modern educational facilities, and let's
24 stay true to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

25 My reaction is also to wonder what makes

1 the United States suitable for handling nuclear
2 weapons after we have just invaded Iraq and killed
3 thousands of Iraqis because the United States
4 administration claimed Iraq had weapons of mass
5 destruction and because of how Saddam treated the
6 people of Iraq.

7 Do we consider the United States capable of
8 handling weapons of mass destruction because of our
9 invasion of Panama, or because of our huge prison
10 population and the fact that 10 percent of African 11
Americans in the United States are in prison, or
12 because the United States nearly decimated the Native
13 American population, or because we have allowed
14 thousands of Mexicans to die on our borders, or
15 because the Rocky Flats, Colorado, area is now
16 hopelessly contaminated?

17 I could go on, but you get my point. There
18 obviously should be no more nuclear weapons production
19 in the United States, particularly in New Mexico. It
20 started here, let's stop it here. Thank you.

21 MR. BROWN: David Bacon will be next.

22 COMMENTS BY DAVID MCGOWAN

23 MR. MCGOWAN: I am Robert David Jefferson
24 McGowan. I am a New Mexican, a U.S. citizen. I was
25 at Yale at the time the first Bush was there, but from

1 there on, our lives took very different directions.

2 I sailed out to teach with Yale China
3 stopping on the way in Japan where I witnessed the
4 impact in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Of course, we had
5 to use -- we had two different kinds, and we had to
6 try them both out. Now 57 years later I am in receipt
7 of this material about the environmental impact. I
8 appreciate having received that.

9 Your study is exclusively on environmental
10 impact. My question is, what is the intended impact
11 on humans should these plutonium pits be used against
12 human beings? I am not a physical scientist, I'm a
13 social scientist, an historian, a Christian theologian
14 and a steward of God's creation.

15 You should know that Christians around the
16 world oppose your plan and that includes my
17 Presbyterian denomination. Your tomes beg the
18 question why. The rationale seems to rest on the two
19 perspectives, flexibility and the uncertain effects of
20 the aging on the pits.

21 Your statements call for flexibility and
22 agility to be able to simultaneously produce a wide
23 variety of weapons. They totally ignore our
24 international promises. Are we a country of our word
25 or are we a country of liars?

1 The United States Senate and more than 180
2 other countries signed the International Nuclear
3 Nonproliferation Treaty. These new weapons, despite
4 what has been said, these new weapons would violate
5 that treaty.

6 In Moscow, President George W. Bush and
7 Putin signed the strategic treaty to reduce nuclear
8 weapons. Your study indicates that the U.S.
9 Department of Defense feels that our present stockpile
10 of thousands of nuclear weapons is inadequate to
11 provide the needed defense. Defense against whom?
12 The Martians aren't coming that the U.S. fears. We
13 are king of the mountain. We are the only significant
14 military power on earth. Who or where are the
15 potential attackers from whom we would need to protect
16 ourselves? Why? Why do we need more of these deadly
17 destructive weapons?

18 I'm going to be sharing my comments and
19 concerns with Governor Richardson and with our New
20 Mexico Congress.

21 I look forward to a written response from
22 the Department of Energy.

23 MR. BROWN: David Bacon, and Dorie Bunting
24 will follow David Bacon.

25 COMMENTS BY DAVID BACON

1 MR. BACON: I've got to digress a little.
2 I just want to -- I think we have hung in tonight. We
3 know that we're being taken over the cliff. I just
4 want to go into a little area that the Secretary has
5 taken us over the cliff on.

6 My study right now is on energy depletion.
7 The DOE has under its purview our energy needs in this
8 country. We get all our natural gas from here, Texas,
9 New Mexico and Canada. Right now, all those fields
10 are depleted, they're in serious depletion, so serious
11 that we're facing a crisis this winter like we never
12 faced before, about a three trillion cubic foot
13 deficit.

14 I found this out 10 months ago when I was
15 running for governor and began to talk about it in
16 that race. Spencer Abraham, the Secretary of Energy,
17 had a meeting five days ago on this issue, and he
18 said, "We're running out of natural gas." So he was
19 about a year late.

20 This is the man driving the car who is
21 taking us over the nuclear cliff, and he is the man
22 who is supposedly going to respond like that when
23 there is any problem.

24 Our whole delegation in New Mexico is also
25 driving that car, Richardson, Bingaman, Udall and

1 Dominici. We pay them about half a million a year to
2 represent us plus medical benefits and everything
3 else. They're all driving the car over the cliff.

4 I want to repeat what Greg mentioned and
5 everyone else has said so eloquently, we have to get
6 control of the car because they're taking us over the
7 cliff, and they don't seem to understand what that
8 means ultimately.

9 So, please, when the election time comes,
10 be sure to challenge whoever you're around who is
11 running for office about these things, and I really
12 appreciate everything I have heard here tonight, it
13 has been great. Thank you all for showing up.

14 MR. BROWN: Dorie Bunting?

15 MS. DORIE BUNTING: I pass. I just say
16 what Greg says. We need to get going, and I'm not
17 talking anymore, so I pass. Thank you.

18 MR. BROWN: Karen Navarro, and Janet
19 Greenwald is after Karen.

20 COMMENTS BY KAREN NAVARRO

21 MS. NAVARRO: My name is Karen Navarro.
22 I'm a resident of Albuquerque and a co-member of the
23 Loretto community. Sisters in our religious order
24 settled in Santa Fe 150 years ago. As a member of the
25 Loretto community and as a citizen of the U.S. and of

1 the world, I reject the Bush administration's plans to
2 restart the production of new plutonium pits with the
3 goal being the development of new nuclear weapons.

4 The publicly stated reason for resuming
5 plutonium pit production is to insure stockpile
6 stewardship. The stockpile stewardship program has
7 always worn a thin veil of insuring the safety and
8 reliability of our existing stockpile.

9 Objective science, however, disputes the
10 need for a mission to replace old pits with new pits.
11 Is an objective science what the stockpile stewardship
12 program should be based on? There currently exists
13 adequate scientific tests to verify safety. Insuring
14 reliability is not a problem if deterrence is our
15 nation's goal.

16 To me, the stockpile stewardship debate is
17 analogous to the global climate change debate. Global
18 warming by human emissions is widely accepted among
19 climate scientists as evidenced by the 2001 report
20 from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.
21 Global warming is politically controversial, but the
22 science is irrefutable by all who refuse to put their
23 heads in the sand.

24 Likewise, DOE and other administration
25 officials hiding their heads in the sand claim that

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1 the safety and reliability of our nuclear stockpiles
2 require the replacement of old pits with new pits, yet
3 objective science does not support this political
4 position.

5 I watched with horror as our nation's
6 policy has become that of preemptive strike

7 capabilities with the stated purpose of taking out
8 another nation's weapons of mass destruction. This
9 means in plain English that the Bush administration
10 will consider offensive use of nuclear weapons while
11 calling it defensive. George Orwell called this
12 double speak. Oh, that he were living today to sound
13 the alarm.

14 On August 6, 2002, Mayor Akiba of Hiroshima
15 publicly invited President Bush, quote, to confirm
16 with his own eyes what nuclear weapons can do to human
17 beings. He continued, "America has not been given the
18 right to impose a Toxamericana and to decide the fate
19 of the world. Rather, we the people of the world,
20 have the right to insist that we have not given you,
21 President Bush, the Department of Energy, our national
22 labs, the authority to destroy the world."

23 It is time for DOE officials and employees
24 of our national labs to step out of line, to loudly
25 object to a president and a congress that support the

1 first-strike use of nuclear weapons. This is a golden
2 opportunity for you to say no to the escalating
3 process that would lead to the desecration of God's
4 creation, human life, animal life, plant life, and the
5 very world we cherish as a sacred trust for our
6 children.

7 So I say no to any new bomb factories,
8 nowhere, no how.

9 MR. BROWN: Janet Greenwald. Janet will be
10 followed by Maria Santelli.

11 COMMENTS BY JANET GREENWALD

12 MS. GREENWALD: I am Janet Greenwald, and I
13 am a coordinator at Citizens for Alternatives to
14 Radioactive Dumping. Our organization believes that
15 we shouldn't be building this nuclear facility or any
16 nuclear facility anywhere.

17 As support for this, I would like to share
18 with you a few highlights from my last working week.
19 On Tuesday, I read a newspaper article, "Native
20 American government officials from Western New Mexico
21 said that their tribes were not prepared to handle a
22 nuclear accident," and this was in response to a DOE
23 statement that this summer the Department of Energy
24 will ship WIPP waste through the tribal lands and also
25 through Albuquerque.

1 Later that day, a friend of mine from
2 Northern New Mexico called and said that she had a
3 healthy baby girl. As I sat alone in my office, I
4 realized I was really relieved because after the Los
5 Alamos fire, farmers and ranchers in that area had
6 trouble with miscarriages and young animals that died
7 in strange and unexpected ways.

8 On Thursday morning, I attended a press
9 conference at the Capitol Rotunda in Santa Fe. The
10 press conference was held by the Los Alamos Study 11
Group and called for the Governor to close down
12 radioactive dumps in Area G, Los Alamos, for waste
13 that is still being dumped into unlined trenches and
14 where tritium is entering the aquifer underneath.

15 On Friday morning, I spoke with Ed
16 Saragosa, an atomic veteran. Ed didn't know that he
17 had been exposed until just a few years ago. He is a
18 former steering committee member of our organization.
19 Ed and his wife with no record of miscarriages in
20 their families experienced eight miscarriages. They
21 had three children who reached maturity. Ed's oldest,
22 his son, died several years ago of myesthenia gravis,
23 a rare neurological degenerative disease. His
24 youngest daughter suffers from thyroid cancer.

25 The child in the family he wanted to speak

1 to me about was his middle child, his youngest
2 daughter, and her family. He told me that his
3 daughter's disease, which was also myesthenia gravis
4 has regressed to the point where she could no longer
5 move or communicate. He told that me she had been
6 become a vegetable.

7 He is one of his grandson's caretakers. He
8 talked about how much he loved his grandson. Ed has
9 cancer now and is experiencing blackouts. He wondered
10 out loud who will take care of his grandson when he is
11 gone and if his grandson will develop degenerative
12 diseases when he grows up like his own grown children
13 did.

14 MR. BROWN: I know last night you didn't
15 get to the last two days of the week. I don't know if
16 you can get to those to get those on the record.

17 MS. GREENWALD: Also in the morning I
18 talked with the head of the Environmental Evaluation
19 Group, the state scientific watchdog group over WIPP,
20 and he told me he would not be able to investigate the
21 death of a WIPP worker who told friends of ours before
22 his death that he thought that his illness was related
23 to his work.

24 We talked about the air monitoring system
25 at WIPP and the fact that there was a continuing

1 problem of reading the air monitors because the air
2 monitors are encrusted with water and salt because two
3 gallons per minute of water flow into the exhaust
4 shaft where the monitors are and have been flowing in
5 since that shaft was dug.

6 On Saturday, I talked to a Laguna tribal
7 member. She said she couldn't make it to a meeting.
8 Her mother was a uranium miner in Miller who just
9 recently died of cancer. Her son had just had four
10 cysts removed from his earlobes the size of apricots,
11 and he was still recovering.

12 On Sunday, I visited my friend and her new
13 daughter, and she told me after years of a lot of work
14 from a lot of groups that her village and three
15 surrounding villages would be getting air monitors
16 from Los Alamos. These air monitors came about
17 because CCNS sued Los Alamos because their stacks
18 violated clean air standards, and part of the
19 settlement was that communities 50 miles away and less
20 could receive air monitors if they requested them. So
21 after a lot of organizing efforts in this area they
22 indeed will get air monitors.

23 So we just sat there for a few minutes, and
24 the sun was setting, and her little daughter was
25 falling asleep, and we just contemplated this small

1 victory and the years of work of a lot of people here
2 that it took to make it happen. Thank you.

3 MR. BROWN: Ms. Santelli? Mark Doppke will
4 follow Maria.

5 COMMENTS BY MARIA SANTELLI

6 MS. SANTELLI: So, wow, Jay, Mike. What a
7 difference from last night, not the least of which is
8 the size of the room. Let me tell you, last night it
9 was luxurious. There was a lot of sprawling open
10 space.

11 I hope that the DOE representatives here
12 that were present last night also realize who was
13 speaking to them last night for the most part in
14 Carlsbad. They were people who either have something
15 to gain from supporting a modern pit facility or
16 something to lose from opposing it.

17 Carlsbad is a company town, and resistance
18 to contaminating and dangerous facilities has been
19 threatened and coerced out of many of the residents
20 but thankfully not all of them. There were 17 people
21 who spoke in opposition to the facility last night.
22 How many people spoke in opposition to the facility
23 here tonight? Nobody. I'm sorry -- no one spoke in
24 favor. Everyone spoke in opposition here tonight.

25 The current DOE project that's in Carlsbad,

1 WIPP, is in its childhood, but people in other
2 communities in New Mexico have lived in the shadows of
3 the Department of Energy for six decades. They are
4 generations of people and families and communities who
5 have witnessed what a bomb factory and the nuclear
6 cycle does to a community's health, its environment,
7 its economy, et cetera, down the line.

8 They're not going to pander to you like
9 those people did last night, like the beholden
10 politicians did last night and the self-serving
11 business people of Carlsbad who want to sell the
12 Department of Energy electricity and water and
13 resources and sweat. Neither can I pander to the
14 Department of Energy.

15 I believe that the decisions of when and
16 where to build a nuclear bomb factory cannot and
17 should not be made by one community like the people of
18 Carlsbad tried to convince you last night that it was
19 their community and they had the right, some of those
20 people who stand to gain from a modern pit facility
21 have the right and we don't have the right to tell you
22 that we don't want this facility. Such a grave
23 decision needs to be made through thoughtful
24 contemplation and informed discussion of all people in
25 all the world, not by a president who was not

1 popularly elected or his administration.

2 Here we go again. I'm going to reiterate
3 some of the comments I made last night because I think
4 it is important for you guys to hear them twice. It's
5 important for them to be on the record again.

6 It is appalling that a president who was
7 not popularly elected and his administration are
8 advocating restarting on a large scale the production
9 of nuclear weapons.

10 Worse yet, what Governor Bush -- because
11 that is hopefully the highest elected office he will
12 ever hold -- and his administration are advocating and
13 pushing for is the development of tactical nuclear
14 weapons. And just to stress that because last night
15 we heard a lot about how we need this deterrence, this
16 deterrence, this deterrence, but actually what we are
17 talking about is weapons we will actually use,
18 actually use, in battle such as the so-called mini
19 nuke and the robust nuclear penetrator.

20 This type of thing is chilling and
21 unacceptable, it is archaic, and will only result in
22 more hatred against the arrogance of the United States
23 by the rest of the world. It also inevitably will
24 result in a new arms race.

25 Further, the entire nuclear cycle is

1 uncontrollably contaminating and threatening to all
2 life, from mining to waste disposal, all of which the
3 entire State of New Mexico knows all too well.

4 New Mexico has had an economy dependent on
5 the business of war. This is what is being proposed
6 here tonight for some 60 years, yet we remain among
7 the poorest state in the nation. This war economy has
8 failed New Mexico, and just for people's information
9 and you guys, I will tell you the state legislature,
10 both houses of the New Mexico state legislature, in
11 our past session, January through March of this year,
12 passed a memorial, both the house and the senate
13 passed a memorial, going on record saying we would
14 like to see the state economy of New Mexico
15 transition from a war economy to a peace economy. So
16 this is against the wishes of the entire state
17 legislature.

18 So could it be our poverty and our
19 political disempowerment that makes us have two of the
20 five sites chosen out of the five from the DOE. The
21 other sites chosen, the Nevada Test Site -- I'll refer
22 you to this beautiful map, the Nevada Test Site,
23 Savannah River, South Carolina, and Pantex, Texas, all
24 of which are sites inhabited largely by poor and
25 people of color.

1 Other reasons are going to be given by the
2 Department of Energy for why these sites are chosen,
3 but I contend that the Department of Energy is racist
4 and classist. In fact, such arrogance displayed by
5 the United States administration in even contemplating
6 beginning a new cycle of nuclear weapons production is
7 racist and classist against the world.

8 The United States, which is the richest and
9 most powerful nation in the world, is in a unique
10 position to truly spread democracy and peace in the
11 world, not militarization, hatred, fear and
12 might-makes-right politics.

13 A modern pit facility provides only for the
14 national offense. It is no defense against the real
15 threats the U.S. faces today. The only way to address
16 these threats is by assuring mutual justice around the
17 world, not mutual destruction.

18 So I say, no modern pit facility, nowhere
19 no way, and once again, all power to the people.
20 Peace.

21 MR. BROWN: John Tauke after Mark.

22 COMMENTS BY MARK DOPPKE

23 MR. DOPPKE: My name is Mark Doppke, and I
24 am the Conservation Chair of the Rio Grande Sierra
25 Club, and I am here to testify for them.

1 We have 3,000 members in the greater
2 metropolitan Albuquerque area, and the Sierra Club has
3 700,000 members nationwide. The Sierra Club supports
4 the no action alternative of the Draft Environmental
5 Statement or do not build the modern pit facility.
6 I'm going to read our statement on nuclear weapons and
7 warfare.

8 "The Sierra Club supports a general
9 bilateral nuclear freeze and is opposed to programs
10 that appropriate or expend public funds for further
11 testing, production or deployment of nuclear weapons
12 systems. Because the use of nuclear weapons in modern
13 warfare would result in unprecedented destruction of
14 the global environment on which human life and all
15 life depends for survival, the Sierra Club urges all
16 nations by bilateral and multilateral agreement to
17 halt any further development, testing and further
18 deployment of nuclear weapons.

19 "The modern pit facility would be necessary
20 to produce the two new offensive weapons proposed by
21 the current administration. The first one, the robust
22 earth penetrator bunker buster, is offensive because
23 it would allow us to strike first and destroy even the
24 most heavily defended targets so there could be no
25 retaliation. It is also extremely dirty in proportion

1 to its size because it blows a lot of radioactive dirt
2 into the air.

3 "The other one, the so-called mini nuke
4 that uses the, quote, usable bomb, would presumably be
5 used on targets in the third world that would be
6 incapable of retaliating with nuclear force.

7 "Owing to the devastating environmental
8 effects of nuclear weapons, the Sierra Club urges the
9 United States to adopt and announce a policy of no
10 first use of nuclear weapons and to base its defense
11 budget on the assumption that it will not use nuclear
12 weapons first."

13 I'm going to skip to our points on the
14 adopted environmental statement. "It does not discuss
15 the impact of the modern pit facility on other
16 nations. It does not address the violations to the
17 Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. It fails to analyze
18 the MPF being a permanent disposal site for large
19 amounts of radioactive material in the future," and
20 I'm talking 10,000 years from now. "It has inadequate
21 discussion of transportation nuclear materials
22 especially in regards to terrorist attacks."

23 Going back to Rocky Flats for a minute,
24 Rocky Flats is the most similar thing that we have to
25 compare the modern pit facility but here we see that

1 it was closed in 1989 by the FBI who was investigating
2 environmental crimes there. No adequate analysis of
3 the human health and environmental impact has yet been
4 made.

5 It is my understanding that at least 1,300
6 compensation claims have been filed from workers
7 involved in Rocky Flats which to date only three have
8 been settled. Rocky Flats once had a very serious
9 fire that almost got out of control and could have
10 contaminated a large area including all of modern
11 Denver today.

12 So despite the technological improvements
13 that they have promised with a modern pit facility, I
14 have little trust that the new modern pit facility
15 would be any safer when they are sending unaddressed
16 problems currently at Rocky Flats today.

17 I would just like to speak for myself here.
18 I was in Carlsbad, I drove here today, and I am here
19 because I don't think there is anything more important
20 that I could be doing right now, and it does make a
21 difference that all of you people are here today
22 because if you're not here, then they won't hear us.
23 So thank you.

24 MR. BROWN: Bill Beyer will follow John.

25 COMMENTS BY JOHN TAUXE

1 MR. TAUXE: My name is John Tauxe. I'm
2 actually from Los Alamos, and so is Bill Beyer who is
3 not here, so whoever is after him is on deck now.
4 Bill Beyer was going to talk in favor of nuclear
5 nonproliferation. I think he is involved with that
6 work at the Lab, but he ran out of time tonight.

7 I'm an environmental engineer in Los
8 Alamos, and I work on waste management activities for
9 DOE and NNSA. I have got about 10 years' experience
10 doing NEPA work and environmental assessment for RAD
11 waste disposal sites across the DOE complex, under DOE
12 orders and under other laws as well, so I'm familiar
13 with the NEPA process. Sometimes it can work well and
14 sometimes it can be coopted by one side or the other
15 and doesn't work very effectively. There are plenty
16 of examples of all three of those.

17 My concern here tonight with the modern pit
18 facility is the waste stream. As an environmental
19 engineer, I deal with radioactive waste. So I am the
20 guy at the end of the pipe, and I see what comes down
21 the pipe, and I try to help find places to put it.

22 I am perfectly happy to work on legacy
23 waste because I understand it is here, it has to be
24 dealt with, we have got to do something with it. New
25 waste is another issue.

1 This facility is going to be producing a
2 fair amount of waste, and the main waste stream I
3 think will be true waste, transuranic waste, and there
4 is also probably a good amount of low level waste that
5 will be produced by it.

6 The true waste would go to WIPP for now,
7 and actually I think WIPP is an excellent site. I
8 think it is one of the things that DOE has done right
9 as opposed to many of the other sites around the
10 country.

11 UNIDENTIFIED: It is leaking water.

12 MR. TAUXE: Yes, the salt is in a saturated
13 zone and that is no surprise there.

14 WIPP is a limited facility. It can only
15 handle so much, and according to its schedule and the
16 schedule of this facility, this would keep on going
17 after WIPP is already full, and WIPP is largely
18 accounted for just by legacy waste that is here now.

19 The pit facility needs to determine before
20 it even gets to the drawing board what it's going to
21 do with its waste beforehand, and I would argue that
22 there is really no good place to put it. WIPP was a
23 compromise, and so on that grounds, it shouldn't be
24 constructed.

25 The low level waste is a similar issue, and

1 you can look at MBAG at TA-54 at LANL as an example
2 of a facility that is past being full already.

3 Specific points about the EIS. I'm kind of
4 surprised that an Environmental Impact Statement would
5 not find the no action alternative to be the
6 alternative of preference based on environmental
7 grounds. There is no environmental benefit to do the
8 modern pit facility in any of its forms.

9 On slide 22 of the slide show we had there,
10 it says that the environmental impacts were basically
11 the same at all sites, and I find that hard to
12 believe. I have studied DOE sites across the complex.
13 Savannah River is very wet. The Nevada Test Site is
14 very dry. Carlsbad is dry. The things are different.

15 One more point is that on slide 25, the
16 small risks of operation are plausible. I understand
17 how the risk assessment is done, I understand where
18 those numbers came from. I don't agree with how they
19 were presented, but I understand the numbers.

20 The future risks were not presented in the
21 show, and I need to examine the EIS more carefully to
22 see if future risks were really examined. If they're
23 not examined from the modern pit facility itself,
24 since it won't exist presumably a thousand years from
25 now, the waste stream produced by it does fall under

1 DOE orders and 40 CFR 191 that do require that risks
2 in the future to potential hypothetical receptors be
3 evaluated. That is not part of the EIS.

4 MR. BROWN: You can submit the rest of
5 that.

6 MR. TAUXE: Well, that was pretty much it.

7 Anyway, I can't support the modern pit
8 facility, the bomb factory, whatever sort of name you
9 want to call it, based on waste management issues.

10 MR. BROWN: Wayne will be followed Hamish
11 Thompson.

12 COMMENTS BY WAYNE BENENSON

13 MR. BENENSON: My father always told me
14 you're supposed to spit pits out. I think that is
15 good advice for this group.

16 I'm looking out at the room, and I'm really
17 glad that all you people are still here. It has been
18 three and a half hours.

19 I have three points. I'll try to make them
20 under the three minutes.

21 I did some math. If there are 125 pits
22 made per year, and let's just say there is a 50-year
23 run, that is 7,250 new pits in circulation. I heard
24 it said tonight that there could be as many as 400
25 pits made per year. That is 20,000 new pits in

1 circulation.

2 A few years ago President Bush and Vladimir
3 Putin from Russia had a reduction of new weapons.
4 This doesn't make sense how you can have a reduction
5 of weapons and an addition of weapons, so I submit to
6 you, we have in this room today and other hearings the
7 power to make de facto policy. So no to pits, no to
8 new weapons production.

9 Second point. I heard it said tonight that
10 there aren't any cancer risks. You can tell that to
11 Harry Benenson, my father. He was an engineer working
12 at Jackass Flats in the early '60s before the Nuclear
13 Nonproliferation Act of 1962, and when he asked
14 environmental engineers is there a danger of
15 radiation, he was told no. Fifteen years later he
16 died of radiation poisoning.

17 He was told to go to a government doctor.
18 The government doctor said, yes, you have radiation,
19 but it did not come from Jackass Flats. Downwind from
20 Jackass Flats in George, Utah, sheep died. I don't
21 have a lot of trust in government pronouncements
22 anymore. So when I'm told, no, there isn't any cancer
23 risk, I have problems with that.

24 Third point. We're supposed to be a
25 government of democracy. The person who is our

1 president who was selected, not elected, in the State
2 of the Union 2002, spoke of offensive deterrence. I
3 didn't know what that meant. After March 2003 I now
4 know. The best kind of deterrent is to get rid of
5 weapons, not to keep producing them.

6 I know that Jay Rose is just doing his job.
7 However, I'm mad at one of his statements. He said it
8 is only Congress and the President that can make
9 nuclear policy. I don't think so. We make nuclear
10 policy.

11 I'm from Albuquerque. Heather Wilson is
12 our representative. She got her job, like Senator
13 Domenici got his job, through the nuclear
14 establishment. I don't want them making our policy.
15 We make our policy. No pits.

16 MR. BROWN: Simone Swan is next.

17 COMMENTS BY HAMISH THOMPSON

18 MR. THOMPSON: I have no idea what I'm
19 really going to say. I support the no action
20 alternative. Perhaps my one thought is somehow when
21 we get really mad about things, we push people away.
22 We push them away so far they can't hear us, and we're
23 angry, we're mad. I'm mad.

24 When I think back to 9/11 and I see what
25 happened after 9/11 which ended up with minimum

1 numbers 5,000 to 8,000 civilians killed, and I still
2 haven't seen a number for the people in the Iraqi
3 military who are poor, just regular people trying to
4 find a way to make a living, I still haven't seen a
5 number as to how many of those have been killed, how
6 many people there. 10,000, 100,000? Afghanistan is
7 the same. So I think there are many people.

8 As I talk to people of different persuasion
9 from myself, I find that our point of contact is the
10 sadness, sadness about 9/11. It could have gone two
11 ways. We could have really got sad and looked at
12 ourselves, but we got mad. We could look at Iraq and
13 Afghanistan and the number of people killed there, and
14 we could get sad, and in getting sad, maybe we can
15 find some community with people who think other than
16 we do, and maybe in that we can change this
17 insanity.

18 MR. BROWN: Simone Swan? I guess Simone is
19 not here. Jeanne Pahls, and Dee Kinney is after Dee.

20 COMMENTS BY JEAN PAHLS

21 MS. PAHLS: I spoke last night too down in
22 Carlsbad, so you have already heard that, so I'll say
23 something different tonight.

24 I would like to say for one that I'm
25 definitely for no plutonium pit factory anywhere,

1 anytime. And then another thing I would like to say
2 is something that I noticed last night in Carlsbad.
3 Maybe you noticed this too, but if you didn't I would
4 like to point this out to you.

5 I felt very struck by the fact that all of
6 our elected representatives from Governor Richardson,
7 all of our state senators, our federal senators,
8 Congress people, state Congress people, all of the
9 people in the city council, all of the county
10 representatives for Carlsbad, every single one of them
11 it seems stood up and praised Carlsbad for being very
12 patriotic and willing to step forward and do this
13 ultimate sacrifice type of thing.

14 It was obvious that Carlsbad was being
15 considered because it is isolated. That tells me it
16 is being considered because the people who will be
17 hurt by it are a small number of people.

18 I imagine they know that too because the
19 political representatives kept saying that Carlsbad is
20 very patriotic and wants to do its duty by the
21 country. One guy even said we want to step forward
22 and do our patriotic duty and accept this the way we
23 accepted WIPP, the way Albuquerque accepts the weapons
24 that are being there. He did this whole list of all
25 these self-sacrificial things that really made me

1 uncomfortable.

2 For one thing, I'm from Albuquerque, and I
3 know Albuquerque does not accept it. I think that was
4 a lie being told to the people of Carlsbad.

5 I also was struck by the knowledge that all
6 of those people, all of those elected representatives
7 who had written out those statements or were making
8 those statements, not a single one of them would ever
9 have a plutonium pit in his hand.

10 And then the next thing that struck me was
11 -- and you will remember this. There were several
12 very humble people who came and talked to you,
13 welcomed you, talked to you about how wonderful
14 Carlsbad is. They have got movie theaters and soccer
15 teams, you remember that.

16 The thing that struck me was we have a
17 system here that starves its people, withholds health
18 care, withholds funding from the schools. We have got
19 so many people in this state especially who are
20 craving a job, and I'm sure Carlsbad is really
21 representative of that. If you starve your people
22 long enough, they will jump to do whatever you want.

23 We have such brain power in these two
24 nuclear labs we have here that we could solve all the
25 energy problems. I know that those brilliant people

1 would be able to solve a lot of the problems we have.
2 We know that the money is there to back that because
3 look at all the weapons and the bombers that we can
4 afford apparently.

5 I guess I would like to end by saying I
6 think that New Mexico can promise you that if that pit
7 production facility ends up here, we will cause pure
8 hell. We do not accept it, we will not accept it, we
9 will never accept it. We don't accept the bombs that
10 are stored here, we don't accept the labs that are
11 here, and that is not going to go away.

12 I hope you take that back to your boss.

13 MR. BROWN: Dee Kinney? Michael Collins
14 will follow Dee.

15 COMMENTS BY DEE FINNEY

16 MS. FINNEY: My name is Dee Finney. I am a
17 registered nurse, and I live in Dixon, which is a
18 downwind community from the Lab.

19 I strongly oppose the decision to construct
20 a modern pit facility at any of the five proposed
21 sites. I request the Department to decide against
22 constructing a modern pit facility anywhere.

23 I am also requesting another longer public
24 comment period. People are unaware of the impact of
25 this modern pit facility. They're unaware of what it

1 will mean in terms of environmental hazards, air,
2 water, health implications, potential health risks to
3 the public, world war and destruction.

4 We are right now in New Mexico in the midst
5 of a record drought period. We cannot entertain
6 possibilities of increased water usage for development
7 of new nuclear bombs.

8 Waste generation doubles, triples, or even
9 quadruples the four action alternatives that the
10 National Nuclear Safety Administration is considering.
11 This increase violates the DOE's policy on pollution
12 prevention which requires facilities to reduce the
13 volume of waste they're creating.

14 We have a huge issue with nuclear waste
15 right now. We have never developed these new bombs,
16 this earth penetrating bomb. Who knows what we're
17 getting ourselves into, and where are we going to bury
18 the waste? How much waste will they generate?

19 Fear-based, power driven technology without
20 a consciousness is crazy. What are we justifying by
21 continuing to build nuclear weapons to annihilate
22 ourselves?

23 The way of war is dead. War doesn't work.
24 It is obsolete. Power wielded with a pen is much more
25 powerful than the power of the sword. That has been

1 proven.

2 What kind of world do you want to see for
3 your children? Ask your heart, not your head. If we
4 can create destruction, why can't we also co-create a
5 peaceful, equal world based on mutual respect and
6 economy?

7 This kind of power wielded has never worked
8 to promote world peace as evidenced by where we are at
9 right now, fear and war-based. What do you want for
10 your children and family? Ask your heart. I believe
11 the hearts of all humankind want peace, and we want to
12 work together for all beings.

13 The life of the planet is at stake right
14 now. That priority is a much higher need than
15 continuing the arms race by building usable nukes for
16 the mass destruction of the planet.

17 What kind of world do we want to wake up to
18 in the morning? I prefer one where we are working on
19 peace and understanding and restoring our planet over
20 dollars, power, greed and fear.

21 MR. BROWN: Michael Collins followed by
22 Erwin Rivera.

23 COMMENTS BY MICHAEL COLLINS

24 MR. COLLINS: I bought something from next
25 door that I think is probably illegal to have in

1 the hotel. I bought some M-80's next door, and
2 they're probably illegal to have here in the hotel,
3 but I wonder what the Lab is doing. I think it's
4 pretty ironic. I'm going to give it to you for your
5 stewardship, so I hope you can be responsible.

6 One of the questions I had earlier, I
7 wanted to ask if the Lab or the University of
8 California has moralists or ethicists to check the
9 morality, consider the morality of continuing the path
10 of weapons production. Is anyone looking into that?
11 Has anyone ever considered the morality or the ethics
12 of where the war machine is heading? Just a question.

13 If we want security, I think we have to
14 seek it through our hearts and not through physics.
15 We could become secure with our sisters and brothers
16 by helping them out, out of poverty and hunger with
17 our wealth and our power, not continue to plot to bomb
18 and radiate them.

19 We are arrogant to brag about being the
20 only world super power. It reminds me of the old
21 fastest gun in the west, but there is always a faster,
22 bigger, better gunman somewhere.

23 What's happened in the U.S. is the
24 businessmen have hired the gunmen. It is also known
25 as fascism, and they buy our so-called representatives

1 like Dominici, Bingaman and Wilson, and they bought
2 our scientists to protect questionable practices of
3 the Enrons, the Halliburtons, Ratheons, Lockheads, et
4 cetera.

5 Where are our state legislators and local
6 politicians, the county commissioners, where are they?
7 Representative Lujan lives right near here. Are they
8 with us, or do they want the pit production? I have
9 never seen them at any of these meetings. I think I
10 have seen Max Cull. He is about the only one I've
11 ever seen.

12 We not only don't want a Rocky Flats
13 failure, we don't want the so-called depleted toxic
14 uranium which both Bushes knowingly exposed to
15 noncombatants and to our own soldiers. I think this
16 is a war crime that we can get them on. They knew the
17 danger, and they exposed them in '91 and again now.

18 We don't want Area G to continue as a toxic
19 dump. We want an end to the war machines in Los
20 Alamos, in Carlsbad, or anywhere on earth, or in
21 space. We are tired of the killing, we're tired of
22 being polite.

23 It is a joke to search for weapons of mass
24 destruction in Iraq. We all know where they are.

25 We are the poorest state in the union.

1 What can Los Alamos do about that, or world hunger,
2 AIDS, cleaner transportation? There is a litany of
3 things that could be done that are constructive. They
4 were doing solar work before Reagan was elected. He
5 took the solar collectors off the roof of the White
6 House, supposedly. That's the story.

7 We're angry, but we don't use violence to
8 solve our problems. We are not daunted by the war
9 machine. There are higher powers.

10 We love you but we object to your work.

11 MR. BROWN: Erwin Rivera will be followed
12 by Gilbert Sanchez.

13 COMMENTS BY ERWIN RIVERA

14 MR. RIVERA: (Introduction in Spanish.) In
15 respect to the first people of this land, to the
16 people of Pojoaque, to the Tewa people of this area,
17 to those of you not of New Mexico that are visiting
18 here, a little correction in some of your history, and
19 a little bit of correction in some of the directions
20 because we consider all four directions sacred.

21 We are here on Pojoaque Pueblo land just
22 north of Tesuque Pueblo, the Pueblo that led the first
23 American revolution against social injustice, against
24 discrimination and prejudice. That was 1680, and for
25 12 years this land was held liberated again.

1 Unfortunately we, many of us such as
2 myself, Mestizo, are both of the Sangre de
3 Conquistador and Conquistado. We are of both bloods
4 for some of us. We carry that turmoil within, and for
5 many of us it has taken generations to heal that
6 historical hurt and to overcome some of that
7 self-hatred that has been manipulated and that we have
8 in many cases internalized. That is part of what
9 creates the condition to manipulate the fear so
10 easily.

11 To those of you not again of this land,
12 understand we have a dicho here in Northern New
13 Mexico, a saying, (in Spanish), tell me who you walk
14 with, and I will tell you who you are.

15 Many of the people that were in this room
16 tonight, we have walked together in many protests from
17 the Santuario de Chimayo to Los Alamos.

18 And a correction also where you were last
19 night in Carlsbad. Carlsbad is not the closest
20 community to the WIPP site, it is Florencia. It is a
21 traditional land-based community of raza, again,
22 people of color.

23 When you leave here tonight, you will see
24 the glow off to the west. That is Los Alamos, but its
25 traditional name was the Pajarito Plateau. It was

1 settled by the homesteaders, and prior to them it was
2 the traditional homeland of the descendents of the
3 Anasazi. We have Sancoway, we have Puye, we have
4 Bandelier. These are the traditional homelands of the
5 original people of this land.

6 Understand your history and why you don't
7 have a lot of credibility because DOE and Los Alamos
8 around here does not understand truth. And so
9 unfortunately if you have been met with some
10 resistance and hostility, understand maybe it is a
11 reputation you personally may not feel you deserve but
12 (in Spanish), you are walking a very dangerous path.

13 We here in New Mexico have resisted it for
14 years. The Santuario with the peace prayers for peace
15 pilgrimage has now been going on over 21 years. My
16 wife, one of the original organizers of that event,
17 from the second year of the event received the earth
18 bundles carrying my first born son who is now 19, and
19 yet still has to face the same struggle that I have
20 been about for my lifetime. And now his inheritance
21 will be that same struggle. (In Spanish) Where is the
22 peace?.

23 We have more Ph.D's per square mile outside
24 of any educational institution in Los Alamos, and yet
25 the Cerro Grande fire, with all their intellectual

1 capability, never thought to use common sense to just
2 go: "Is it windy out there?" And their fear of truth
3 and accountability, and everyone scrambling for
4 several hours trying to deny that they had a problem.
5 Then the fires took hold. And the lies of Los Alamos
6 were uncovered as were many sacred sites that have
7 been attempted to be kept out of public knowledge for
8 obvious reasons.

9 Firefighters from all over the country came
10 to try to fight that fire, and they were put next to a
11 campsite where smoke was coming from underground,
12 there was an underground fire. And finally after
13 years of lies, Los Alamos had to say, oh, yes, that 14
14 may have been one of the sites that we left years
15 ago. A whole crew of firefighters from Utah, because
16 after three days couldn't get a straight answer out of
17 DOE, left.

18 Take it back earlier, and let's look at the
19 history of Los Alamos and taking of a sacred name, the
20 tree of life, and how they invert that and desecrate
21 that.

22 Again on the Pajarito Plateau, your
23 previous name was the Department of War. Your
24 predecessors under that previous organization came to
25 my ancestors, to my mother-in-law's grandfather, and

1 at gunpoint escorted those people that worked that
2 land off of that land.

3 All we ask for is equitability and
4 treatment the same way that restitution was given to
5 the original residents of Hanford, of Savannah and of
6 Yucca Flats.

7 The only difference between those
8 communities and here is that these people happened to
9 be a darker shade. There is racism and it does serve
10 a purpose because for the most part it keeps us
11 divided, and it continues to serve those in positions
12 of power and privilege.

13 Los Alamos has had that too long, and they
14 have been in denial and now we have, whatever you
15 want to call it, karma or just rewards. What is now
16 coming back to visit Los Alamos is some of the highest
17 rates of brain tumors and cancers, highest suicide
18 rates and alcoholism that is running rampant.

19 They are morally bankrupt in spite of all
20 their intellectual capabilities, and blind to issues
21 of common sense. To this day their arrogance refuses
22 to let them come and be neighbors.

23 But on our part no longer can we greet you
24 culturally. I'm sorry we can't do it in the
25 traditional way. I am sorry to my grandparents that

1 I'm not being respectful in the way I was taught. We
2 would do you the proper greeting. We would say "Mi
3 casa es su casa," and we can't say that anymore
4 because those that came before you took our house,
5 desecrated our house, and then turned around and
6 treated us like strangers in our own homeland.

7 My obvious position is I am opposed to the
8 pit facility. I have been opposed to what Los Alamos
9 has been about for years. I have greater fear of what
10 this is about, and I'm here up almost to eleven
11 o'clock at night with three teenagers at home alone.
12 So I do have a greater fear of what is happening here
13 and the responsibility to be accountable to them.

14 In terms of fear and what we're all
15 reacting to, a lot of this is being manipulated by
16 that because of the 9/11 tragedy. Well, the second
17 victim after the 9/11 tragedy was the Constitution of
18 the United States, and it continues. You're in
19 violation of the Constitution of New Mexico, and
20 you're in violation of just common decency. (In
21 Spanish.) Where is the Tewa translator? Where is the
22 Spanish translator? By our Constitution, everything
23 that is of a legal nature is supposed to be in those
24 languages. You're in violation of our Constitution
25 and it's probably just a rudeness that we just have to

1 chalk up to ignorance.

2 But no longer can you lead because you need
3 to understand this is a sacred land. Some of what you
4 will hear by those that will speak after me is not
5 just information of anger, but you're going to hear
6 points of sacred knowledge. When sacred knowledge is
7 shared, it is not for your intellectual consumption,
8 it is not for the transcripts, because sacred
9 knowledge is conveyed with a responsibility.

10 You will be hearing those, and you're going
11 to have to answer at another level and be held
12 accountable to a moral judgment, to your children if
13 to no one else.

14 We understand here that what we do here
15 today and what we say has a consequence to seven
16 generations yet to come. To the seven generations yet
17 unborn, what we do here today will impact upon them.
18 If nothing else, my grandchildren and great
19 grandchildren have to know that I stood and hopefully
20 spoke truth to power.

21 But truth is not recognized by Los Alamos.
22 They have manipulated, they punish their own
23 whistleblowers, the discrimination continues in their
24 employment practices, and if Carlsbad were to get it,
25 we know that that's going to be a continuation of the

1 political corruption because we know the politicians
2 that are behind it and profiting.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. BROWN: Gilbert Sanchez. Bob Anderson
5 will follow.

6 COMMENTS BY GILBERT SANCHEZ

7 MR. GILBERT SANCHEZ: (Introduction in
8 Tewa.) In my tradition I ask the members of the
9 Pueblo of Pojoaque to give me permission to speak
10 because I am a visitor from their sister pueblo, San
11 Ildefonso. If there is anybody here to give me that
12 permission, if not, I will rely on the spirits of the
13 past. Is there anybody in here from Pojoaque? Then I
14 will ask the spirits to give me that permission. (In
15 Tewa.)

16 I want you all to look at this map that my
17 children did for you. You see you're missing Alaska,
18 you're missing the Hawaiian Islands, and you're
19 missing all the territories. There is a commonality
20 of this whole thing. It is not only the nuclear
21 facilities that are there. We forget one thing, that
22 this country is one big piece of land.

23 I am here. I am here. I am from here,
24 from the Pajarito Plateau. My name is J. Gilbert
25 Sanchez, the Christian name that was given to me.

1 Through my great-great grandmother my name Sanchez
2 comes.

3 So when I speak, remember where you come
4 from or where you came from before you got here in New
5 Mexico. You and I are casualties of war. Our
6 communities are casualties of war. Whether you're in
7 Waco, whether you're in Maryland, over here in
8 Washington, D.C., you're a casualty of your own
9 nation's military might, the military industrial
10 complex.

11 You think that when you go back to
12 Washington, D.C. or when you're sitting in your office
13 up in Los Alamos that you're free from contamination.
14 Everytime you flush that toilet, everytime you're
15 draining something into that drainage over the last 60
16 years, it is coming back. Your science is full of
17 faults. One of the biggest faults is that this earth
18 and the greenery of this earth creates new oxygen. It
19 doesn't.

20 And before you go anywhere else, I'm going
21 to impose a gag order on the facilitator and the
22 process by which we are going.

23 I am an elder, and I'm going to take that
24 privilege as a Tewa elder to go beyond the three
25 minutes. You are on Tewa land, you are on my

1 ancestral lands, and that is what I'm imposing upon
2 you.

3 MR. BROWN: If I may, and with all
4 politeness, make this comment. I have never intended
5 to cut anybody off. But we're only three-quarters of
6 the way through. There is a number of people --

7 MR. SANCHEZ: I am sorry about that.

8 MR. BROWN: -- but I am just saying that my
9 justification is -- all I'm saying is that I'm not
10 eliminating anybody, but I am hoping everybody has a
11 chance to speak. That is what I meant.

12 MR. SANCHEZ: So what I said, we are
13 looking at this pit production, but everybody here has
14 forgotten something else, it is beyond that. Why do
15 we need the pit production? Because in Congress there
16 is this thing going through a bill, it's a bill
17 sponsored by our Senator Pete Dominici, Plutonium Pete
18 that has gone through that in every state we are going
19 to have a nuclear power plant.

20 Where is that going? Where are those rods
21 going to go? I'm no scientist, but I'm no dummy
22 either. They're going to come up here to Los Alamos,
23 to Carlsbad or one of the five places. That is why we
24 need this. That is what the government is basing its
25 decision on.

1 I understand those things. You taught me
2 well. I learn well. Across the United States each
3 community, every community is a casualty of war even
4 though our country has never bombed us. But the waste
5 streams that you have caused from the examples of
6 Rocky Flats to Los Alamos that I'm aware of, the
7 uncontrolled waste streams that have gone out of
8 there, the things, the violations of your own safety
9 regulations, and now you come to me, and ask, can we
10 build this thing. I say no.

11 Let us first go in there with an
12 international group of people or citizens of this
13 country and look into every aspect of what has gone on
14 over the last 60-plus years, of all the incidences and
15 see where we corrected them, see where we are in
16 compliance. Let's find out where that \$45 million
17 went that was pilfered off by credit cards and all
18 these other things. We let it go, we write it off.

19 The war in Iraq cost us what, \$75 billion.
20 We could have gone to Iraq and bought Saddam Hussein
21 off. We could have built him an infrastructure that
22 was second to none, insured the water, air, and soil
23 was clean, and still got the oil that we want.

24 You can't fool the people all the time.
25 Sooner or later they're going to come around. Our

1 country, as great as it is, is there. And I'm not a
2 Native American, I'm an indigenous person from the
3 Western Hemisphere, meaning that I can go from the
4 North Pole to the South Pole, and I'm still in part of
5 my home. The boundaries aren't there.

6 So we look at those things as we move on.
7 But we see Los Alamos is right here. They have done
8 some nasty things that have impacted all these people
9 right in here.

10 My brother talked about the Cerro Grande
11 fire. Where did that smoke go? You guys who love
12 steaks, beef. It went to Kansas and Nebraska. We're
13 getting that beef back.

14 And how many of you people in here know of
15 a person or persons close to you or in your
16 neighborhood who have cancer? Raise your hands. How
17 many of you that work with this facility know friends
18 that have died from cancer or other related illnesses?

19 Some of us don't want to hold our hands up
20 because we are afraid. I have lost too many in my
21 community, and I am north of all the waste streams and
22 all the airways and the pathways that come about.

23 But 2000 was a bad year for me. 2000 was
24 the time we found our first two childhood cancers in
25 my community, San Ildefonso Pueblo. That tells me we

1 have been impacted. I look to the pueblos downstream
2 from us, and I see a lot more going on, but they don't
3 want to speak up. They don't want to protect their
4 people.

5 I would like all of us to say no. I don't
6 want this stuff coming here. If you guys want it,
7 take it to Washington, D.C. If you want it, take it
8 to your homes, take it to your backyard.

9 I have seen too many of my young people go
10 off to war for the first George, now for the second
11 George, and I know they are going to come back sick.
12 And you're going to come back and deny them like you
13 are denying my brothers and sisters from the great
14 police action that we did in the '60s and the '70s and
15 tell us we're not sick, it's all in your mind.

16 My spirituality has brought me back to
17 where I'm at. My love for my people, my love for my
18 land always in front of me, not in my pocket book.

19 When WIPP was going on and Senator Billy
20 Kitts stood up and challenged me, he says, "You know
21 what, Mr. Sanchez, a gasoline fire is more dangerous
22 than a plutonium fire. A WIPP truck goes over and you
23 run out there, and its burning. A gasoline truck is
24 more dangerous." I said, "Hey, I'm not a dummy. I'm
25 not a fireman, but if I have a gasoline fire, I'm not

1 going to run over there and throw water on it, I'm
2 going to throw dirt on it. But a plutonium fire I
3 don't know what the hell to do, do you?" He didn't
4 have an answer. He got pissed off at me and walked
5 out of the meeting.

6 I thank you, I thank the people of
7 Pojoaque and their ancestors for giving me this time,
8 this opportunity. (Concluding remarks in Tewa.)

9 MR. BROWN: Ann Hendrie?

10 UNIDENTIFIED: I believe she left.

11 MR. BROWN: Miguel Moreno? Joan Henderson?
12 Helen Homans? Marcos Vigil? Tania Zee?

13 MS. ZEE: That's me.

14 COMMENTS BY TANIA ZEE

15 MS. ZEE: All forms of life on earth are
16 crying out for peace, the earth, the water, the
17 plants, the animals and the people. All forms of
18 life, but yet there is a small handful of patriarchal
19 imperialists that are mainly based in the United
20 States but are spread throughout. They are not all
21 white men, but the white men are at the top of the
22 heap.

23 I don't think they're motivated by fear. I
24 think they're motivated by greed and the kind of
25 insanity that comes from greed, because what you're

1 doing, what you and your people are doing will destroy
2 the future of your grandchildren as well as our
3 grandchildren. And if we cannot stop you ultimately,
4 we, who are the vast majority of people on earth, if
5 you continue on your path and you destroy the earth,
6 you will go down with us, and your grandchildren will
7 look out the door in the morning and they will see
8 what the survivors of Hiroshima saw and it will be on
9 you.

10 Now what we're seeing here today with this
11 plutonium pits is just an extension of U.S. terrorism,
12 the U.S. government being the biggest terrorist that
13 the world has ever seen, the military industrial
14 complex, and it started right from the beginning.

15 We can look back fondly to the Constitution
16 and the Declaration of Independence, and truly those
17 dudes, they wanted to have a democratic brotherhood in
18 their small, rich, white man clique. You know, George
19 Washington, the big slave owner.

20 When the white settlers came to this
21 country, they didn't come for the purpose of killing
22 the indigenous people, they came because they were
23 being persecuted. But once they got here, they drew
24 that line that said we are right, we are might, we are
25 the human beings, and the people whose land this is,

1 the animals, the grasses of the prairies that grew,
2 the buffalo, all of the tribes, they are shit, and we
3 will kill, we will massacre the babies.

4 So what is going on now is not like some
5 fall from grace. The U.S. was founded on genocide.
6 It was built on the slave trade of the African people,
7 400 years of horror, then on the immigrants that came
8 to this country seeking a better life for their
9 children, and their children were locked in sweat
10 shops 12, 14 hours a day. And today the immigrants
11 that come to this country, the Mexicans, the Central
12 Americans, all whose countries have been devastated by
13 the rotten imperialist policies of this government,
14 and then they try to get across the border so they can
15 make some money to send it home to their families if
16 they're lucky enough not to die in the back of some
17 truck or be shot down. So what is happening now is
18 just in kind.

19 But another thing that is happening now is
20 that you are bringing us together, all the races, all
21 the people, and when you see 100,000 people sitting
22 down in Los Alamos, you will wish that you hadn't done
23 it here.

24 You know what I mean? After September 11
25 and the horrible pain that was inflicted on the people

1 there, innocent people who always suffer because of
2 the policies of their government, the world, the heart
3 of the world went out to America. Now America is more
4 hated than ever before.

5 On February 15, 30 million people took to
6 the streets to say no to war. We have international
7 connections. You know what I mean? We do, baby.

8 Let me just finish up here. This community
9 needs jobs and it puts the community in a very
10 vulnerable position around things like WIPP and Los
11 Alamos. Why can't Los Alamos be transformed into a
12 solar energy experiment? Why not? Why not? We don't
13 have the water to give to you, and our people are
14 already dying of cancer. Thank you.

15 MR. BROWN: Miles Jones followed by Melissa
16 Cannon.

17 COMMENTS BY MILES JONES

18 MR. JONES: Thank you all for showing up.
19 My names is Miles Jones. I am first and foremost a
20 daddy, I'm an artist, I have a background in Chinese
21 medicine, in paleoanthropology, and I'm exhausted, and
22 I hope that I can maintain some semblance of lucidity.

23 I'm simultaneously delighted to see you all
24 here so enthusiastic and kind of devastated that there
25 is not more people here to defend what little

1 liberties we have left after the Patriot Act and other
2 such abuses to human decency.

3 I wish I could speak with generosity and
4 understanding about you gentlemen's position, but I am
5 outraged, humiliated to come back to America.

6 I spent most of my adult life abroad,
7 Europe, England and Asia, and I have never suffered
8 culture shock. You always anticipate some sort of
9 cultural leap when you go to a new country, but coming
10 back to America, I'm not just experiencing shock, but
11 I'm experiencing chronic nausea at the state of apathy
12 and how anesthetized we Americans are to the usurping
13 of what we already own which are the inalienable
14 rights to liberty, life, the freedom to, quote, pursue
15 happiness.

16 I am outraged. I'm gutted. Not a day goes
17 by when I don't fantasize capturing folks like you
18 guys and highjacking you and holding you ransom in
19 favor of a regime change. I wish there were more
20 people here, and we all had a sense of humor. I have
21 a job, I have a nine to five, I can't risk that, but
22 there is not a day goes by when I don't really wish
23 that all of us had enough of a sense of humor and
24 enough balls to just jump on you guys and hold you
25 ransom.

1 Nothing else is going to work really
2 because look at the history of -- thank you so much
3 for elucidating a little bit on the American and
4 domestic and foreign policy. It is nothing new. We
5 are all kind of jaded. We are all kind of up to our
6 gills in this kind of -- just look, you don't have to
7 be intelligent. Just see how deeply we're in it.

8 I look very hard over the past three years
9 since we've been at war. Then I look to folks like
10 Martin Luther King, Jr. and Gandhi and Socrates.
11 Socrates, Confucius, Tolstoy, Gandhi, they all had
12 their finger on the pulse. Why? Gandhi was asked
13 when he first got off the plane in England, "What do
14 you think of Western Civilization?" He said, "I think
15 it would be a good idea."

16 All the journalists were laughing, and
17 scratching their heads, and they said "Well, what do
18 you mean, Mr. Gandhi?" Well, you can judge the level
19 of the civilization or the spiritual evolution of a
20 culture by the way it treats its animals, and by
21 effect we treat our children, and by effect we treat
22 the land.

23 He said if we go on killing, killing,
24 killing, we don't make the connection. And Confucius
25 was saying the same thing. "Why do we send the fruit

1 of our generations to die in the squalor and blood of
2 the battlefield. Go to the abattoir, go to the
3 slaughterhouse, listen to the moanings of the innocent
4 creatures day after day after day, and you'll make the
5 connection."

6 Datilus asked Socrates before he drank the
7 hemlock, "What is going to happen to Greece now that
8 we are killing off all of our philosophers?" He asked
9 Datilus, "What did you eat today on the way to visit
10 me in this prison?" "Oh, I had some mutton."
11 Socrates said, "Then, Datilus, we must go to war."

12 So think very hard, please, about what it
13 is that we are doing to create our contribution to the
14 web. Modern science is acknowledging that it is a
15 holograph. It is not mechanistic reality anymore. 16
Everything is affecting everything. So we're all
17 responsible, and we're all part of the solution.

18 One more thing, please. I think this is
19 very much like the story of the cat and the bell. All
20 the mice were wondering how we're going to deal with
21 this cat, she is killing us off. So one guy had a
22 brilliant idea, we'll put a bell around the cat. And
23 they all had a big party to celebrate the solution to
24 their problems. But one old mouse stood up from the
25 back and said, "Who is going to put the bell on the

1 cat?"

2 So, I'm asking, it is not enough to just
3 keep petitioning these gentlemen. They don't listen.
4 We should find out how much they earn, and we should
5 be very conscious of the fact that they are not
6 listening, and we have to affect the situation
7 differently. Thank you.

8 MR. BROWN: We still have quite a few
9 speakers, we have lost quite a few, and when I'm
10 insisting on the three-minute rule, I'm not trying to
11 curb anybody, but we have lost folks who wanted to
12 speak, and they didn't because people took too much
13 time.

14 I tried to be somewhat indulgent, but we
15 have paid a penalty for that. And, again, I want you
16 to understand I'm not trying to curb people, I'm
17 trying to allow everybody to get to speak here before
18 midnight. So, if folks will understand and try to
19 abide by that.

20 Is Melissa Cannon here?

21 COMMENTS BY MELISSA CANNON

22 MS. CANNON: Well, anyway, I'm not as
23 articulate as all the people that have talked before
24 me, but I just wanted to address the whole thing
25 though.

1 I'm sort of a -- I'm a person up in Taos
2 that has a nonprofit organization called Holy Rags up
3 there, and we're dealing with the textile waste in
4 Northern New Mexico trying to address that. It is
5 like when we think about all the waste that is going
6 down in all the different ways, it's really a shame to
7 think of all the money that gets burned up in this
8 kind of stuff that really isn't a benefit to people at
9 all.

10 But there really is a need for some kinds
11 of expenditures on things that could really benefit
12 people and benefit the earth. We are trying to do our
13 part to try to address the waste, the waste of
14 resources, the waste of people, and the energies that
15 people use on things and trying to find solutions for
16 that.

17 It just seems like there must be ways that
18 we can all work together to make a better world, but
19 it is kind of complicated when people have all the
20 resources and they are spending it on really foolish
21 things. I just think that the plutonium pit factory,
22 the new bomb factory, is just going to ruin the earth
23 some more. We can't really afford to do that anymore
24 because it is already pretty messed up. I think we
25 need to do better, and I hope that the people that are

1 trying to work on that stuff can see that that stuff
2 isn't of any use to the people in New Mexico or
3 anywhere in the world.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. BROWN: Ruth Fahrbach?

6 COMMENTS BY RUTH FAHRBACH

7 MS. FAHRBACH: I come from west of the Rio
8 Grande across from Taos there. My name is Ruth
9 Fahrbach. I founded a company called Taos Hemp a few
10 years ago. So Taos Hemp.

11 I don't really believe in digging deep
12 holes and burying depleted plutonium, uranium,
13 anything that is going to hurt the health of people or
14 of a living being. Do no harm is a great saying.

15 One of my friends on a web site, one of my
16 fellow hempsters, has that on his web site. Sovereign
17 nations, sovereign people. We have many indigenous
18 here in New Mexico and over the country.

19 I just came from South Dakota. The
20 sovereign nation of the Lakota Sioux three years ago
21 planted a hemp crop. Now we're talking industrial
22 hemp. We're talking how the Feds lied about
23 industrial hemp. We're talking how the Feds, the DEA
24 and the FBI come in to a sovereign nation of Lakota
25 Sioux who have declared in their laws what industrial

1 hemp is.

2 First is what marijuana is, and in our
3 federal laws we still say they are the same. They are
4 a controlled substance. This is a lie.

5 Now the Lakota planted their crop. So what
6 I'm saying here is we believe, the Lakota believe and
7 hopefully all indigenous people will say this, and
8 sovereign nations and sovereign people which we are
9 will say the difference being industrial hemp can
10 feed, clothe, shelter, fuel every person on this
11 planet.

12 We can get rid of war. We can plant hemp.
13 Hemp will save this country. Believe me, because we
14 don't address the basic needs of what this planet
15 needs.

16 So we want to see it going back to an
17 agricultural society. We want to have hemp be native
18 to the world. There is no waste and there is no
19 depletion with hemp. It doesn't starve the people.
20 It gives health.

21 We want basic energy problems addressed.
22 We want to have people live and have the basic needs
23 and rights that they need to have on this planet and
24 creatures who can eat this great food.

25 Now you know the old saying, put your money

1 where your mouth is. Feed the hungry.

2 MR. BROWN: Let me remind people you have a
3 good deal of latitude in what you say, but this is a
4 hearing on the modern pit facility, so this is your
5 chance to get your comments on record about the modern
6 pit facility.

7 Kathy Sanchez. Sheri Kotowski will follow
8 Kathy.

9 COMMENTS BY KATHY SANCHEZ

10 MS. SANCHEZ: (Introduction In Tewa.) To
11 help me to think in a good way as I speak on Indian
12 land and with my people and my heart, I will thank the
13 children for being here. I am Kathy Wabodi Sanchez
14 from San Ildefonso Pueblo and my name Wabodi means
15 that I have taken the honor of trying to emulate the
16 qualities that our natural environment, our sisters of
17 another being have given to me.

18 With that I would like to speak for the
19 voiceless, what you call environmental impact
20 statement impacts, and whether they be in a tree, in a
21 rock, or in the air, in our spirit forms, we still
22 have life, and our life has been disrupted and taken,
23 coopted, and we're made to give statements on the
24 environmental statement process, NEPA process, that
25 are of the Euroamerican mind set that is quite linear

1 and does not take into consideration our being and our
2 spiritual essence, our forms that we are.

3 One of the statements is that we're trying
4 to reach the mind of our governments, I guess, and how
5 they approach things, and yet we have left out our
6 connections to our mother earth and to our spiritual
7 self, and we are -- we work with children who have
8 been abused or traumatized, whether physically or
9 sexually, and here we are violating mother earth, our
10 life giver in the same way by injecting all these
11 toxins into her body and raping her over and over, and
12 thinking we can justify it because it furthers the
13 pocketbook or furthers the companies that are
14 sponsorships for such entities.

15 The thing is I'm speaking for Tewa the
16 United, a women's organization. We oppose any
17 disruption to our sacred lands, sacred areas anywhere.
18 We are global citizens. Any and every form, living
19 and nonliving, has the right to exist, and we as
20 humans do not have the power to be in control of
21 things that are very destructive to our children and
22 to ourselves and our people.

23 I would also like to remind ourselves that
24 we are neglecting to recognize another brain and that
25 is our gut reactions. We have been addressing things

1 to our head and we need to get back to our heart
2 connections and our spiritual connections on how we
3 address a process that is flawed and changing it back
4 to our control.

5 Everything that we do is in our control and
6 our reason. In addressing the Environmental Impact
7 Statement for the modern pit production facilities,
8 again, the statement has been clear: No way, nowhere,
9 no how, in any form. It is a violation of our
10 international rights and our connections, and we have
11 ownership, and it will not be coopted and we do not
12 give that up.

13 MR. BROWN: Richard Johnson. James McCabe
14 will follow.

15 COMMENTS BY RICHARD JOHNSON

16 MR. JOHNSON: I remember when these
17 hearings used to be in the daytime and you could make
18 an appointment to testify. We used to state our name
19 and say where we resided, and then we would thank you
20 for the opportunity to make comments on this very
21 important issue.

22 The nature of things has really changed, I
23 notice, tonight. We don't talk about where we reside,
24 and we don't say thank you for the opportunity to
25 speak because we know this is a sham.

1 We know that the NNSA has already decided
2 to build a nuclear pit facility. The decision has
3 already been made. We know that they're selling this
4 project based upon erroneous fears and lies about
5 weapons of mass destruction. Sounds familiar, doesn't
6 it?

7 But this time we're supposed to believe
8 that a 50-year-old pit just isn't good enough to get
9 off a nuclear bomb, and we have to put a fresh new pit
10 in. Well, plutonium, the isotope in these pits, it is
11 PU-239, that isotope has a half life of 24,000 years.
12 That means that pit will be half as useful in the year
13 26,003 as it is today. But it can't get off a nuclear
14 bomb today. We have to get a new one.

15 Before the American coup of 2002, the world
16 was already starting to get impatient with how slowly
17 the United States was fulfilling its obligations under
18 the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. However, people
19 were still hopeful that the destruction of nuclear
20 weapons was going to happen, and we would rid the
21 earth of nuclear weapons.

22 But this illegal administration in
23 Washington is assuming that nuclear weapons will be
24 part of the U.S. military forces for at least 50 more
25 years and perhaps forever. After a year in office,

1 the Bush administration completed the Nuclear Posture
2 Review. The entire text of the NPR remains secret,
3 but behind the Bush regime's rhetorical mask of
4 nuclear strength lies plans to totally revitalize the
5 U.S. nuclear forces.

6 The NPR's stated goal is to reduce the
7 number of operationally deployed weapons to between
8 1,700 and 22,000 by the year 2012. But operationally
9 deployed weapons are only meant to be the visible
10 portion of a huge weapons stockpile that will probably
11 number about 15,000 nuclear weapons.

12 Let's talk a little bit about the nuclear
13 pit facility that is being proposed. We're going to
14 talk a little about Rocky Flats. This is the son of
15 Rocky Flats. The FBI shut down Rocky Flats because of
16 the criminal activity of the DOE. The Rocky Flats
17 managers, those criminals, were going around at night
18 dumping nuclear waste into the water supply of
19 Bloomfield, Colorado, a population of 27,000 people.
20 They were burning nuclear waste in an unpermitted
21 facility. We don't want these criminals in New Mexico
22 doing business here.

23 MR. BROWN: James McCabe? Kathryn Bennett?

24 MS. BENNETT: I give up my minutes.

25 MR. BROWN: Catherine Montano.

1 COMMENTS BY CATHERINE MONTANO

2 MS. MONTANO: My first question is to the
3 people from DOE and you, where is the media? How come
4 Channel 7, 4, 13, 41 are not here tonight?

5 You know that you have sabotaged these
6 nuclear hearings. I've been involved in these
7 hearings 13 years, and I'm sick of these criminals
8 from the Department of Energy. DOE, it doesn't stand
9 for the Department of Energy, it stands for the Devils
10 of the Earth.

11 You know, when the little old man talked
12 about the alien forces, we know about the alien forces
13 that are down at WIPP. We know that the Department of
14 Energy is taking nuclear waste to WIPP and moving
15 drugs back. We know that for a fact.

16 You know these criminals need to be in
17 jail, and this production at Los Alamos needs to stop.
18 The biological and chemical and nuclear needs to stop.
19 We need the U.N. inspectors to come into Los Alamos.

20 You know that God says in Revelations, "I
21 will ruin those that ruin the earth."

22 I never chose to do this work. I was
23 physically thrown out of my bed, and I know that
24 Senior Bush and Junior Bush know about Ashtar. Ashtar
25 is a herald angel. In May of '90, he physically threw

1 me out of my bed, and I know it was coming from a
2 higher power telling me to get involved and stop this
3 nuclear madness.

4 In these 13 years, I thought that we would
5 kill it because WIPP scientifically should have been
6 stopped. The politics shoved it down New Mexico's
7 throat. The man that was here earlier who said I'm on
8 your side, and he said WIPP is state of the art, he is
9 not on my side because I know for a fact, because I
10 listened to all the scientific minds for 13 years, the
11 atomic veterans, people that have worked in these
12 facilities that have been devastated, their genetics
13 have been ruined.

14 We continue a nuclear madness that must
15 stop. These people that continue to come here to our
16 state and shove this down our throat, they're going to
17 pay with the higher power.

18 You know that scientists that have studied
19 nuclear radiation like for 30 years, they say that the
20 more the society gets radiated and the animals, the
21 more violent they become. And you're going to see
22 violence rampant throughout the United States because
23 we are in a nuclear holocaust here in the United
24 States and around the world because they have dumped
25 it everywhere. It is in our groundwater, it is in the

1 rivers, it is everywhere. It is in all of our bodies,
2 and this must stop. It is not right to continue this
3 madness.

4 It must stop, and you people that are in
5 high positions, God is going to hold you accountable
6 for what you are doing to all life on this planet.

7 We must stop the nuclear madness, and it
8 started here and we must stop it here.

9 And I want to know why you did not have the
10 media here tonight. Answer me? Why?

11 MR. BROWN: I'm the facilitator here. The
12 person who arranged for publicizing the meetings I
13 think is outside. You have made a good point. You
14 are the last speaker, and I will have them talk to 15
you.

16 MS. MONTANO: You go around telling the
17 "Journal," the "Albuquerque Journal," the "New
18 Mexican," all the TV stations in this state that they
19 do not -- they cannot attend these meetings. I have
20 filmed these meetings for 13 years, and I had a stater
21 come up to me and ask me what media do you represent,
22 and I go, "I don't represent the media." So this is a
23 bunch of bull that they continue to suppress the
24 information that is devastating all life on this
25 planet.

1 MR. BROWN: This is the last speaker. I
2 want to thank everyone for attending. We are
3 officially adjourned, and we will answer questions in
4 just a moment. Thanks very much.

5 (The hearing concluded at 12:00 midnight.)

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1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
2) ss.
3 COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
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