

***Resolution Regarding Transportation and Other Community Impacts Associated with a
Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada***

WHEREAS, The Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 requires the federal government to be responsible for the safe, permanent disposal of commercial spent nuclear fuel and government high-level radioactive waste in a geologic repository; and

WHEREAS, The President has recommended and Congress has approved Yucca Mountain as the site for the geologic repository, subject to obtaining a license from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and

WHEREAS, Nye County, the host county immediately adjoining the Yucca Mountain site is geographically large but sparsely populated and may lack the resources to absorb the near-term project impacts, if the repository is built; and

WHEREAS, Nye County has assessed the impacts on its county in a Community Protection Plan and can articulate its assistance needs; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Energy has focused its resources on evaluating the suitability of Yucca Mountain, it has done so with the assumption that there will be ample time to plan and provide safe transportation from the existing storage sites to the site; and

WHEREAS, Transportation infrastructure, both rail and highways within Nevada is limited, especially in the rugged and sparsely developed areas near the site; and

WHEREAS, There are other impacts associated with the repository that may likewise overwhelm local resources; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) convened in its 2002 Annual Convention in Chicago, Illinois believes the safe, permanent disposal of nuclear waste should not pose an undue burden on the region directly adjoining the repository; and be it further

RESOLVED, The federal government should provide financial and other assistance to communities, such as Nye County, most directly impacted by development of a repository development at Yucca Mountain; and be it further

RESOLVED, The Department of Energy should coordinate with all State, tribal and local governments in planning nuclear waste transportation modes, routes and schedules along potential corridors between existing storage locations and Yucca Mountain.

Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity

Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors November 12, 2002

Adopted by the NARUC Convention November 12, 2002