



May 8, 2018

Dear Members of the U.S. House of Representatives:

The undersigned organizations and businesses write to express our vehement opposition to H.R. 3053, the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2017, which is scheduled to be considered by the House of Representatives this week.

By reviving licensing activities for Yucca Mountain as a nuclear waste repository, this legislation has the potential to adversely impact citizens and businesses located in Nevada.

Yucca Mountain is located just 90 miles from the world's premier tourist, convention and entertainment destination in Las Vegas, Nevada, which welcomed nearly 43 million visitors last year. Las Vegas is once again on pace to meet or break that number with over 10 million visitors already accounted for in 2018. The Greater Las Vegas area is one of the fastest growing in the U.S. with a population that now exceeds 2.1 million people according to an estimate from the U.S. Census Bureau. Safety and security remain a top priority for all Americans and any problems with the transport of more than 110,000 metric tons of nuclear waste to the site throughout the country, or issues with its storage there, would bring potentially devastating consequences to the local, state and national communities. Moreover, with taxes on Nevada's tourism industry providing 42 percent of the state general fund, even a modest decline in visitors' perception about the region could have severe negative implications for the state's economy and future growth.

We stand with the many concerned citizens, small business operators and bipartisan members of the Nevada delegation in staunch opposition to any attempt to restart the repository licensing process and will work tirelessly to ensure that radioactive waste is never stored anywhere near the world's entertainment capital in Las Vegas.

We strongly urge members to vote against this flawed legislation and, instead, explore alternative solutions that respect state sovereignty and do not put Nevada's citizens and economy at risk.

Sincerely,

Geoff Freeman, President and CEO – American Gaming Association
Virginia Valentine, President – Nevada Resort Association
Mary Beth Sewald, President and CEO – Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce
Rossi Ralenkotter, CEO – Las Vegas Convention & Visitors Authority
James Murren, Chairman and CEO – MGM Resorts International
Joe Asher, CEO – William Hill U.S.
Keith Smith, President and CEO – Boyd Gaming Corporation
Mark P. Frissora, President and CEO – Caesars Entertainment
Sheldon Adelson, Chairman and CEO – Las Vegas Sands Corporation
Timothy J. Wilmott, CEO – Penn National Gaming