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**Press Release**

**Recusal of NRC Commissioner David Wright**

Today the State of Nevada filed a formal petition with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit challenging U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) member David Wright's refusal to disqualify himself from participating in NRC Yucca Mountain licensing decisions. Today's petition and previous filings were jointly prepared by the Attorney General's Office and outside counsel from the firm of Egan, Fitzpatrick, Malsch and Lawrence, and coordinated by the Agency for Nuclear Projects.

Previously, Nevada had moved to disqualify Commissioner Wright because of his bias in favor of the project, citing among other things his formation of a lobbying group to advance the project, his criticism of Nevada for its "myopic resistance," and his stated, but inappropriately premature, belief that the Department of Energy's license application complies with all NRC requirements. Wright's participation in any licensing decisions would violate Nevada's Constitutional right to unbiased decision-makers at the NRC. The lawsuit filed today seeks to vindicate Nevada's Constitutional right.

"As Governor of Nevada, I strongly support this filing," said Governor Brian Sandoval. "From my days as a state legislator and then-Attorney General, the licensing proceeding has been one of the most critical battlefields in the fight against Yucca Mountain. The State of Nevada will continue to fight and defeat the dangerous Yucca Mountain project at every opportunity and in any venue. Any revival of Yucca Mountain would come at the direct expense of the health and safety of Nevadans and Nevada will not stand for it."

"Today's filing continues our fight to protect Nevadans from the poster-child for federal overreach, the ill-conceived and discredited high-level nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain," said Nevada Attorney General Adam Paul Laxalt. "Our team will bring every available weapon to this fight."

For further information, please contact Robert Halstead, Executive Director, Nevada Agency for Nuclear Projects, 775.687.3744.