

## Why Not Negotiate?

### **Many technical, scientific and procedural challenges remain unresolved.**

- No amount of negotiation for benefits can make a mountain that is unsafe for nuclear waste “safe”.
- The potential risk of the financial exposure and cost to the state far outweigh any potential benefits.
- The Department of Energy (DOE) has yet to share with local officials any comprehensive plan to finance the costs of impacts from the shipment of high-level nuclear waste to Yucca Mountain.
- DOE has previously violated agreements that they have made with the State of New Mexico relating to benefits promised in return for acceptance of transuranic waste shipments at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plan (WIPP).
- Within two years of the commencement of transuranic waste shipments in New Mexico, the DOE attempted to significantly cut funding for public safety training even though not all hospital and public safety personnel had been trained.
- Although DOE continues to provide radiation training in New Mexico, the training does not meet federal standards and as a result the State of New Mexico has taken over the training of the public safety and hospital personnel.
- While DOE has initiated health and safety training at two hospitals in Las Vegas valley, the training is neither comprehensive nor currently available to all public safety, emergency response, and health personnel.