



**Q.** *Is the repository protected from sabotage?*

**A:**

A repository at Yucca Mountain would safeguard radioactive materials from acts of terrorism or sabotage. Being 1,000 feet under the desert surface makes it highly unlikely that an attack at the surface of a repository could have a significant impact on the extremely durable waste packages that contain the spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste. In addition, the Yucca Mountain site is remotely located on federal land more than 90 miles from any major population center. The Nellis Air Force Range surrounds the Nevada Test Site on three sides; the site has a highly effective rapid-response security force; and the airspace above Yucca Mountain is restricted.

**Y**es. Disposal of nuclear waste in a geologic repository 1000 feet underground renders it virtually impenetrable to acts of terrorism or sabotage.

In developing a repository, the United States will set an example for other countries to follow in the safe and secure disposition of radioactive materials. This could encourage other countries to follow the lead of the United States, and clean up contaminated sites and dispose of nuclear materials safely.