

28 to radiation from fallout from atmospheric nuclear weapons tests and by exposures from
29 working in the uranium industry;

30 WHEREAS, RECA was a bi-partisan bill, sponsored by Representative Wayne Owens
31 and Senator Orrin Hatch and included amongst the compensation provisions eligibility for
32 compensation for downwinders with certain cancers who lived in a limited number of counties
33 in Utah, Nevada, and Arizona during specified years;

34 WHEREAS, the RECA terminates in 2022 and the RECA Trust Fund terminates after
35 July 10, 2022, and claims not filed within 22 years after July 10, 2000, will be barred;

36 WHEREAS, over 23,000 downwinder claims, 4,749 onsite participant claims, and
37 8,785 uranium workers for compensation under RECA have been approved, according to the
38 Congressional Research Service (2020), with 278 claims pending as of January 7, 2020;

39 WHEREAS, studies of the numbers of premature deaths due to fallout exposure from
40 United States atmospheric nuclear weapons testing vary widely, but amount to ~~§~~→ [many of] ←~~§~~
40a tens to
41 hundreds of thousands;

42 WHEREAS, people throughout Utah and neighboring western states have suffered and
43 continue to suffer serious health consequences from exposure to fallout from past explosive
44 nuclear testing;

45 WHEREAS, the Legislature has acknowledged the harms experienced by Utahns as the
46 result of nuclear testing, for example:

47 (1) in 2001, the 54th Legislature of the state of Utah voted in support of H.C.R. 1,
48 Resolution for a Day of Remembrance, marking the 50th anniversary of the beginning of
49 nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site, recognizing that "many Utahns and many other citizens
50 of the United States of America living downwind of those tests suffered as a result of being
51 'active participants' in the nation's nuclear testing program"; and

52 (2) in 2010, the House of Representatives of the 58th Legislature of the state of Utah
53 voted in support of H.R. 4, Resolution Urging Ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test
54 Ban Treaty, recognizing that "past nuclear weapons testing at the Nevada Test Site has
55 devastated the health and livelihoods of thousands of Utahns";

56 WHEREAS, some of the highest recorded and documented exposures to fallout from
57 some tests were in portions of Montana, Idaho, and northern Utah, which are not covered by
58 RECA;