

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE
IN YUCCA MOUNTAIN, NEVADA**

RESOLUTION NO. 6-2002

We, the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners pass the following resolution to urge Michigan's U.S. Senators and members of Congress to support the efforts of the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to establish a permanent repository for high-level nuclear waste by opening Yucca Mountain, Nevada.

WHEREAS, over the past four decades, nuclear power has become a significant source for the nation's production of electricity. Michigan is among the majority of states that derive energy from nuclear plants; and

WHEREAS, since the earliest days of nuclear power, the great dilemma associated with this technology is how to deal with the waste material that is produced. This high-level radioactive waste material demands exceptional care in all facets of its storage and disposal, including the transportation of this material; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, Congress passed the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. This legislation requires the federal government, through the U.S. Department of Energy, to build a facility for the permanent storage of high-level nuclear waste. This act, which was amended in 1987, includes a specific timetable to identify a suitable location and to establish the waste facility. The costs for this undertaking are to be paid from a fee that is assessed on all nuclear energy produced; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the federal act, Michigan electric customers have paid \$405.8 million into this federal fund for construction of the federal waste facility; and

WHEREAS, there are serious concerns that the federal government in not complying with the timetables set forth in federal law. The U.S. Department of Energy, working with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission must not fail to meet its obligation as provided by law; there is too much at stake.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we call upon Michigan's elected officials to support the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in their effort to fulfill their obligation to establish a permanent repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, for high-level nuclear waste.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and Michigan's U.S. Senators and members of Congress.

Sue -

Please add

for D. Heggo to

ADAMS.

Melissa
Wright

NM5507
wm-11

3/12/02

for
M. Wyatt

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) SS
COUNTY OF ST. JOSEPH)

I, PATTIE S. BENDER, Clerk of the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners and Clerk of the County of St. Joseph, do hereby certify that the above Resolution was duly adopted by the said Board on February 19, 2002.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County and Circuit Court at Centreville, Michigan, this 20th day of February 2002.


Pattie S. Bender, Clerk

