WASTE MANAGEMENT 2015

Panel 112
Future of Consent-Based Disposal Siting
By:

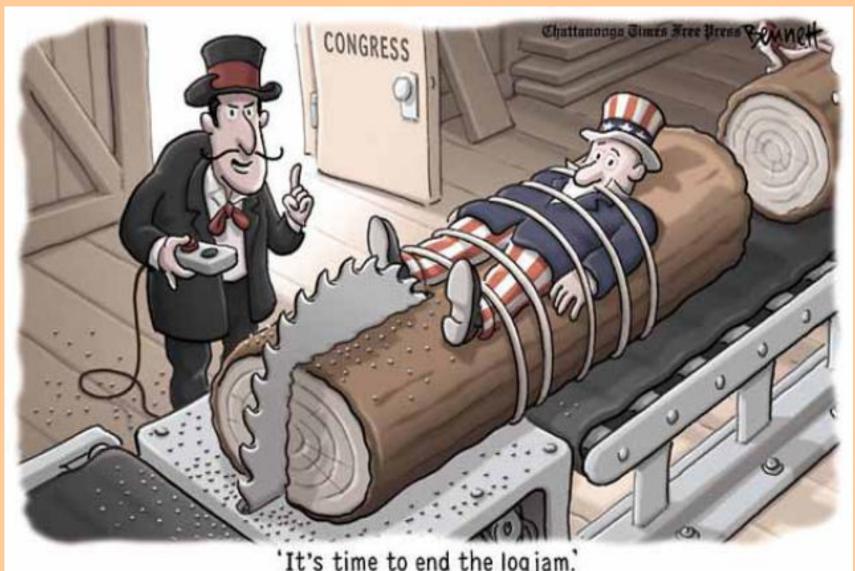
John Heaton
Chairman of the Eddy-Lea Alliance
An Interim Storage Site

WHERE ARE WE NOW?



BRC Gave An Extensive Report With Solutions

- DOE Produced An Implementation Plan
 - Consolidated Interim Storage by 2021
 - Repository by 2048
 - Is the debate over on a rush for a repository?
 - CIS could be robust answer for 300 years
- Senate Responded With BRC Bill
- House Responded With Yucca or Nothing



'It's time to end the logjam.'

WHERE ARE WE TODAY?

- Senate Producing Comprehensive Bill
- Senate May Also Have Yucca & CIS Bill
- House Still Working On Yucca Bill, But May Include CIS (reluctantly)
- What will be in the bill?
 - Will Bill provide for a pilot CIS only?
 - Will Bill overcome CIS restrictions in NWPA?
 - Will funding for CIS be enough for licensing, construction, transportation, operations, incentives & profit
 - Will bill be funded piece-meal with no forward assurance?
- Will Proposals Integrate Into Budget?
- Can Cloture be Achieved in Senate?





ARE THERE AVAILABLE SITES?

• PROCESS:

- Is the CIS Private or DOE owned?
- Is there local & regional site support?
- Does the site actually meet standards?
- Will site satisfy EIS inquiry & public objections?
- Has state signed an irrevocable agreement with DOE/contractor?
- No doubt there will be many local sites interested
- Key is a state agreeing!!!



WHO KNOWS WHAT CONSENT IS?

- What is a consent based process?
 - Every community, every state will have their own ideas, requirements and process
 - Begin with a Willing Community Region
 - Tentative acceptable geology & geography
 - Agreement by state to host the facility to allow geo-technical/environmental assessment
 - Agreement is the set of conditions required to accept the facility

WHAT ARE CONSENT OPTIONS?

- Statewide Referendum Tough
- City by City Town Hall Educational & Consensus Process
- Legislature Passes Enabling Legislation
- Governor Negotiates & Signs Argeement
- AG Negotiates & Signs Agreement If Allowed
- Other Approaches

WHAT DO STATES NEED TO KNOW IN ADVANCE?

- Geo-technical requirements of site
- Geographic requirements of site
- Government contractual requirements for an agreement
- Basic licensing, operational, construction, transportation and profit allowed reimbursement
- Guaranteed support from government thru Congressional action of the contract
- What incentives, e.g. research, education, new business, cash, etc.

HOST AGREEMENT

- Health, safety and environmental standards oversight
 - How much involvement? Defer to NRC?
 - Violations?
- Security
 - Defer to NRC standards? Additional?
- Communication level? Who?
- Transportation oversight?
- Reporting? Who? What? How much?
- What is the definition of "Interim"?
- Resolution of disputes? Arbitration?
- Competent Court of Jurisdiction?
- Incentives? Each entity will have their own wish list.
- Decommissioning?
 - How clean is clean?
 - Financial assurance for decommissioning?

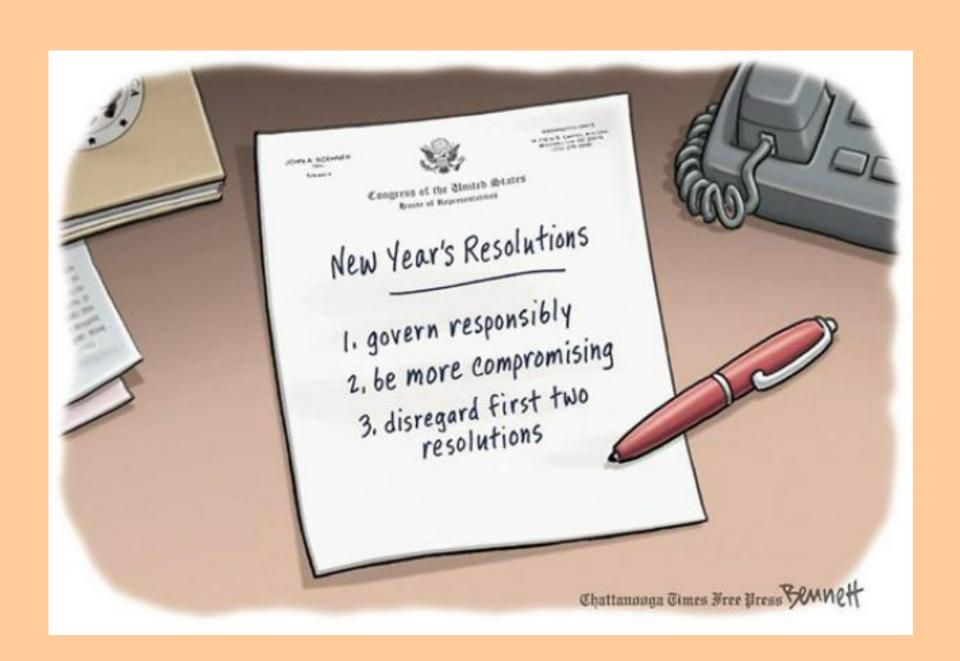
AGREEMENT, WHAT THEN?

- Public education and integration of project into region and state
- DOE negotiates deal to move forward
- Environmental, geo-technical evaluation to prove site
- Final agreement with state approved
- DOE agreement to support NRC license
- DOE chooses sites
- DOE engages contractor thru RFP
- Must keep politics in forefront, Governor, Legislature, Congressional Delegation, AG



WHAT IF THERE IS NO CONGRESSIONAL ACTION?

- Who can be very sure Congress will act?
- Will utilities come together to develop their own CIS?
- Will states make a compact with a willing state?
- Since most laws today are made by the courts, is there a lawsuit that can move the ball?



NUCLEAR WASTE INFORMED CONSENT ACT

- Bill Introduced by Reid, Heller, Titus & Heck
- Gives states consent or veto over a project
- Would require a governor, affected cities and counties to sign off on consent for a project before construction could begin
- Little chance for it to pass the House
- NWPA gave states veto over a project
- In 2002 Gov. Guinn vetoed Yucca and Congress overrode the states right



FUTURE OF NUCLEAR POWER?

- How do we get utility commissions to recognize the value of portfolio diversity?
- How do we fix the number one enemy of nuclear power? Waste Storage/Disposal
- How do we change state RPS's to include clean Nuclear?
- How do we power the economic engine of our economy without Nuclear Power?

Only in America...



do we accept weather predictions from a rodent but deny climate change evidence from scientists.

QUESTIONS ABOUND

