

Lesson 1 Student Activity (Day 1)

NUCLEAR WASTE CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

Managing the nation's nuclear waste is a complicated challenge with both technical and societal aspects that must be addressed. After reading "The Challenge of Nuclear Waste," consider the statements below. Then decide whether each statement represents a challenge or a solution (or both) and whether it is societal or technical (or both). For each statement, put a check in the appropriate box or boxes.

	Challenge?	Solution?	Technical?	Societal?
1. There is an accumulation of highly radioactive nuclear waste that requires permanent disposal.				
2. The Nuclear Waste Policy Act established a national policy for safely transporting and disposing of highly radioactive nuclear waste.				
3. Nuclear waste is a potential hazard to public health and safety and the environment.				
4. State and local governments and the public must participate in planning for the disposal of waste.				
5. Spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste must be safely transported to the repository.				
6. The federal government is planning a deep underground repository for the permanent disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level waste.				
7. Spent fuel and high-level radioactive waste will remain radioactive for thousands of years.				
8. Nuclear waste is thermally hot.				
9. Many nuclear power plants are running out of room for storing spent nuclear fuel.				
10. Many Nevada residents are opposed to a geologic repository being constructed in their state.				