



SENATOR HARRY REID, MAJORITY LEADER KILLING THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP



Since the 1982 Nuclear Waste Policy Act, Senator Reid has fought attempts by pro-Yucca Presidents and Congresses to force Yucca Mountain on Nevadans. While fighting for better, safer and more fiscally responsible solutions for dealing with nuclear waste, Senator Reid has successfully stalled the Yucca project by cutting its funding year after year. Thanks to Senator Reid, President Obama and Energy Secretary Chu have finally terminated the Yucca Mountain project and taken action to withdraw its license application from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's review. Nevadans can rest assured their state will never be the nation's dumping ground.

Senator Reid Worked with the Obama Administration to Eliminate Funding for Yucca Mountain in 2011, Withdraw the License Application, and Terminate the Project. During the presidential campaign, then-Senator Barack Obama made clear that he was opposed to using Yucca Mountain as a nuclear waste repository. Keeping his promise to Senator Reid and all Nevadans, President Obama cut Yucca funding to an all time low in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 budget, and the White House's FY2011 budget request completely eliminates all funding for the proposed Yucca Mountain project. [<http://www.lvrj.com/opinion/7598337.html>; http://reid.senate.gov/newsroom/pr_073009_yuccafundingforlicensecut.cfm; http://reid.senate.gov/newsroom/pr_013110_yuccabudgetzero.cfm; http://reid.senate.gov/newsroom/pr_100216_yuccalicense.cfm]

Further fulfilling President Obama's commitment to Senator Reid, the same day as the FY2011 budget was announced, the Department of Energy took the first step towards withdrawing Yucca's license application. In June 2008, President Bush's Energy Department filed the application to dump waste in Nevada with only partial designs and countless safety and environmental issues unresolved. Withdrawing the license application for constructing Yucca Mountain puts a permanent end to the project. [<http://www.energy.gov/news/8707.htm>; http://www.state.nv.us/nucwaste/news2008/pdf/nv0806nrc_la.pdf]

Senator Reid Repeatedly Defeated Attempts by Pro-Yucca Administrations and Congresses to Force Yucca Mountain on Nevadans. From 1995 to 2000, despite pro-Yucca leadership in the Senate and the House of Representatives, Senator Reid, with Senator Richard Bryan, defeated numerous attempts to bring nuclear waste to the Nevada Test Site for temporary storage. Since 2000, Senator Reid used his position in the democratic leadership to stop eight

HIGHLIGHTS OF SENATOR REID'S RECORD ON YUCCA MOUNTAIN

- ★ Senator Reid Worked with the Obama Administration to Eliminate Funding for Yucca Mountain in 2011, Withdraw the License Application, and Terminate the Project
- ★ Senator Reid Repeatedly Defeated Attempts by Pro-Yucca Administrations and Congresses to Force Yucca Mountain on Nevadans
- ★ Senator Reid Consistently Used His Leadership Positions to Cut Funding for Yucca Mountain
- ★ Senator Reid Worked with Secretary Chu to Create a Blue Ribbon Commission that Will Find Safe, Scientifically Sound Solutions for Nuclear Waste Storage

pro-Yucca bills and ten pro-Yucca amendments of that period.

[104th Congress: H.R. 1905, Record Vote: 558; S. 1271, no vote; S. 1936, Record Vote 259, agreed to 63-37 (less than 66 required to override presidential veto); 105th Congress: S. 104, Record Vote 42, passed 65-34; H.R. 1270, Record Vote 148, failed cloture 56-39; 106th Congress: S. 608, died in Committee; S. 1287, Record Vote 8, Passed 64-34, vetoed; 109th Congress: S. 3962, died in Committee; S. 2589, died in Committee; S. 2610, died in Committee; 110th Congress: S. 37, died in Committee; S. 2551, died in Committee; S. 1602, died in Committee; S. 3215 died in Committee; S. 3523, died in Committee; S.A. 1753, filed; S.A. 4341, filed; S.A. 4930, filed; S.A. 4931, filed; 111th Congress: S.A. 791, filed; S.A. 833, filed; S.A. 860, filed; S.A. 1626, filed; S.A. 1631, filed, S.A. 1632, filed]

Senator Reid Consistently Used His Leadership Positions to Cut Funding for Yucca Mountain.

From 2001 to 2009, Senator Reid successfully cut over \$1 billion from President Bush's Budget Requests for funding to construct the nuclear waste dump at Yucca Mountain. In addition, Senator Reid stripped \$27 million from the FY2010 budget for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the agency responsible for

Yucca's license. Since Senator Reid became Democratic Leader in 2005, Yucca Mountain's budget has decreased each year in spite of the pro-Yucca Bush Administration and Republican leadership of the Senate from 2005 to 2007. [Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Acts, FYs 2001-2010]

Senator Reid Worked with Secretary Chu to Create a Blue Ribbon Commission That Will Find Safe, Scientifically Sound Solutions for Nuclear Waste Storage.

On January 29, 2010, Energy Secretary Chu announced the members of the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future, whose members include distinguished nuclear energy experts, geologists, policy makers, and environmental policy experts. After meeting with Senator Reid several times on this issue, Secretary Chu agreed to create this panel, as Senator Reid had proposed in his legislation, the National Commission on High-Level Radioactive Waste and Spent Nuclear Fuel Establishment Act of 2009. The Energy and Water Appropriations Act of 2009 provided \$196.8 million to terminate the Yucca Mountain storage facility and fund the Blue Ribbon Commission. The Commission will present their final report on the best alternatives to Yucca within two years. [Presidential Memorandum: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/presidential-memorandum-blue-ribbon-commission-americas-nuclear-future>; S. 591; H.R. 3183, Public Law 111-85, Record Vote 322; <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2009/may/08/bell-tolls-yucca/>]

THE PRESIDENT'S FY2010 BUDGET PROPOSAL TERMINATIONS, REDUCTIONS, AND SAVINGS

"This proposal implements the Administration's decision to terminate the Yucca Mountain program while developing disposal alternatives. All funding for development of the facility would be eliminated...the Nation needs a better solution than the proposed Yucca Mountain repository. Such a solution must be based on sound science and capable of securing broad support, including support from those who live in areas that may be affected by the solution."

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