

The background of the slide is a light gray gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The title text is centered in the upper half of the slide.

UNITED STATES PAST HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE SITING EXPERIENCE

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TECHNICAL STAFF MEMBER

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD



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PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE SITING PROCESS
 - YUCCA MOUNTAIN
 - WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT
 - MONITORED RETRIEVABLE STORAGE SITE(S)
- CASE STUDY – INTERACTIONS WITH THE OFFICE OF THE NUCLEAR WASTE NEGOTIATOR
 - FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT EFFORTS IN WAYNE COUNTY, IOWA (1992-1993)
 - TIMELINE OF EVENTS
 - OUTCOME
- LESSONS LEARNED

PAST US SITING EFFORTS

- FEDERAL GEOLOGIC REPOSITORIES
 - LYONS, KANSAS – TERMINATED DUE TO LOCAL OPPOSITION AND UNMAPPED OIL WELLS IN THE AREA
 - YUCCA MOUNTAIN – NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT (NWPA) – IN LIMBO
 - WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT – DISPOSING TRANSURANIC WASTE
- FEDERAL MONITORED RETRIEVABLE STORAGE (NWPA; PROGRAM TERMINATED IN 1995)
 - MESCALERO APACHE TRIBE
 - SKULL VALLEY BAND OF GOSHUTE INDIANS OF UTAH
 - FORT MCDERMITT PAIUTE SHOSHONE INDIAN TRIBE, NEV.
- COMMERCIAL CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITIES (NONE OPERATING)
 - PRIVATE FUEL STORAGE, UTAH (LICENSED 2006) - SKULL VALLEY BAND OF GOSHUTE INDIANS OF UTAH
 - INTERIM STORAGE PARTNERS, TEXAS (LICENSED 2021)
 - HOLTEC, NEW MEXICO (LICENSED 2023)

YUCCA MOUNTAIN

- NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT (NWPA) ESTABLISHED THE OFFICE OF CIVILIAN RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT (OCRWM)
 - OCRWM CONDUCTED A NATIONAL SEARCH FOR A POTENTIAL SITE; EVENTUALLY NINE SITES WERE CHOSEN TO BE STUDIED IN SIX DIFFERENT STATES
 - PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN APPROVED THREE SITES FROM A CANDIDATE LIST OF FIVE FOR SITE CHARACTERIZATION
 - HANFORD, WASHINGTON; DEAF SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS; AND YUCCA MOUNTAIN, NEVADA
- IN DECEMBER 1987, CONGRESS AMENDED THE NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT (NWPAA) AND DIRECTED DOE TO STUDY ONLY YUCCA MOUNTAIN
- IF YUCCA MOUNTAIN WAS FOUND UNSUITABLE, STUDIES WERE TO BE STOPPED IMMEDIATELY
- THERE WAS ESSENTIALLY NO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN SITING PROCESS
- THIS PROCESS IS AN EXAMPLE OF THE “DECIDE, ANNOUNCE, DEFEND (DAD)” SITING PROCESS

WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT (WIPP) -1

- 1974 – U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION (AEC) CHOOSES AN ANCIENT SALT BED 26 MILES EAST OF CARLSBAD FOR EXPLORATORY WORK IN THE SEARCH FOR AN UNDERGROUND RADIOACTIVE WASTE REPOSITORY SITE.
- 1979 - CONGRESS AUTHORIZES WIPP AS A RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FACILITY TO DEMONSTRATE THE SAFE DISPOSAL OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE FROM DEFENSE ACTIVITIES NOT REGULATED BY THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC).
- 1991 - NEW MEXICO ATTORNEY GENERAL FILED A FEDERAL LAWSUIT AGAINST DOE AND DOI REGARDING THE WITHDRAWAL OF LAND FROM PUBLIC USE FOR A WIPP **TEST PHASE** ALLEGING WIPP LACKS INTERIM STATUS UNDER RCRA THAT WOULD ALLOW WIPP TO BE TREATED AS IF A HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY PERMIT HAD BEEN ISSUED.

WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT (WIPP) - 2

- 1996 - PRESIDENT CLINTON SIGNS LEGISLATION AMENDING THE WIPP LAND WITHDRAWAL ACT, INCLUDING THE **ELIMINATION OF TEST PHASE** LANGUAGE.
- 1998 - DOE ISSUES A RECORD OF DECISION BASED ON A SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT TO DISPOSE OF TRU WASTE AT WIPP. **AFTER EIGHT PUBLIC HEARINGS AROUND THE COUNTRY**, EPA CERTIFIES THAT WIPP MEETS ALL APPLICABLE FEDERAL RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL REGULATIONS.
- 1998 - THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) CERTIFIED WIPP FOR SAFE, LONG-TERM DISPOSAL OF TRU WASTES.
- WIPP DOES NOT HAVE AN NRC LICENSE FOR RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL.

MONITORED RETRIEVABLE STORAGE (MRS)

- NWPAA AUTHORIZED THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY TO SITE A MONITORED RETRIEVABLE STORAGE FACILITY.
- MRS WAS ENVISIONED AS AN ABOVE-GROUND FACILITY THAT WOULD STORE A LIMITED AMOUNT OF SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL TEMPORARILY PRIOR TO SENDING IT TO A PERMANENT REPOSITORY.
- NWPAA PROHIBITS MRS CONSTRUCTION UNTIL CONSTRUCTION OF A PERMANENT REPOSITORY HAS COMMENCED.
 - THE BENEFITS OF EARLY DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF AN MRS FACILITY ARE NOT ACHIEVABLE.

NUCLEAR WASTE NEGOTIATOR

- CONGRESS ESTABLISHED THE OFFICE OF THE NUCLEAR WASTE NEGOTIATOR TO FACILITATE SITING AN MRS.
 - AGENCY WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH (LIKE THE NWTRB)
 - INDEPENDENT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (LIKE THE NWTRB)
- THE NEGOTIATOR WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN ANY WILLING VOLUNTEER AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO HOST AN MRS (OR A REPOSITORY).
 - THE AGREEMENT COULD INCLUDE REASONABLE INCENTIVES AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS
 - INCLUDING VARIOUS TYPES OF PUBLIC PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, AND PROBLEM-SOLVING ASSISTANCE.
- NUCLEAR WASTE NEGOTIATOR AWARDED 10 PHASE I GRANTS (UP TO \$100K) TO 7 NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES AND 3 COUNTIES IN WYOMING, UTAH, AND NORTH DAKOTA.
- ADDITIONAL PHASE IIA FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANTS OF \$200K WERE AWARDED TO 3 NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES (MESCALERO APACHE, SKULL VALLEY BAND OF GOSHUTE INDIANS, FORT MCDERMITT PAIUTE SHOSHONE INDIAN TRIBE)
- AFTER AN UNSUCCESSFUL SEARCH FOR A VOLUNTEER HOST, THE OFFICE OF THE NEGOTIATOR WAS TERMINATED WHEN CONGRESS DID NOT REAUTHORIZE FUNDING FOR THE OFFICE IN 1995.

MONITORED RETRIEVABLE STORAGE EFFORTS IN IOWA

- JUNE 17, 1992 – DR. BULLEN ACCEPTED A NUCLEAR ENGINEERING FACULTY POSITION AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY.
- FOLLOWING DISCUSSION WITH FAMILY FRIENDS IN CORYDON, IA, DR. BULLEN CONTACTED THE WAYNE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (WCDC) TO DISCUSS THE MRS FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT PROGRAM.
- WCDC HAD LIMITED FUNDING AND MINIMAL OFFICE SPACE/EQUIPMENT.
- WCDC EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT PROGRAM.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS (1)

- APRIL 27, 1992 – DR. BULLEN TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH DR. EDWARD STANEK, SCIENCE ADVISOR TO THE GOVERNOR OF IOWA. DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON MRS FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANTS (PHASE I AND PHASE II) AND POTENTIAL INTEREST BY WAYNE COUNTY, IOWA.
 - DR. STANEK MET WITH THE GOVERNOR’S CHIEF-OF-STAFF, DAVID ROEDERER.
 - MR. ROEDERER MET WITH THE GOVERNOR AND SCHEDULED A MEETING IN MID-JUNE 1992 WITH GOVERNOR BRANSTAD AND DR. STANEK TO DISCUSS WAYNE COUNTY INTEREST IN MRS STUDY GRANT.
- JUNE 17, 1992 – STATE OF IOWA BUDGET CRISIS, GOVERNOR BRANSTAD MEETING WITH DR. STANEK POSTPONED.
- JUNE 30, 1992 – PHASE 1 (\$100,000) MRS FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE PASSES.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS (2)

- JULY 18, 1992 – WAYNE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (WCDC) DECIDED TO "EXPRESS INTEREST" IN THE MRS FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT PROGRAM.
- JULY 20, 1992 – MR. JOHN HENDREN, PRESIDENT OF WCDC, CALLED DR. STANEK TO DISCUSS WAYNE COUNTY INTEREST IN THE MRS FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT PROGRAM.
- JULY 22, 1992 – DR. STANEK MET WITH GOVERNOR BRANSTAD AND PRESENTED MRS ISSUES.
 - GOVERNOR BRANSTAD ASKED IF ANY COUNTY HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST.
 - DR. STANEK INDICATED NO "OFFICIAL" EXPRESSION OF INTEREST, BUT WAYNE COUNTY HAD DISCUSSED FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT PROGRAM
 - GOVERNOR BRANSTAD SAID "NO."
- DISCUSSIONS REGARDING FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT PROGRAM CONTINUED IN WAYNE COUNTY.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS (3)

- AUGUST 14, 1992 – MR. KIM WALDEN (OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT) AND DR. BULLEN MADE PRESENTATION TO WCDC REGARDING SPENT FUEL STORAGE TECHNOLOGY AND THE MRS FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT PROGRAM.
 - WCDC DISCUSSION OF MRS TECHNOLOGY AND FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT WAS GENERALLY FAVORABLE.
 - WCDC DECIDED TO FORMALLY CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE NUCLEAR WASTE NEGOTIATOR.
- SEPTEMBER 2, 1992 – MR. JOHN HENDREN, WCDC PRESIDENT, SENT LETTER TO NUCLEAR WASTE NEGOTIATOR AND SPOKE WITH CHUCK LEMPESIS, NUCLEAR WASTE NEGOTIATOR CHIEF-OF-STAFF.
 - MR. LEMPESIS MADE INFORMAL CONTACT WITH GOVERNOR BRANSTAD'S OFFICE.
 - GOVERNOR'S OFFICE SUGGESTED MRS DISCUSSION "WAIT UNTIL AFTER THE NOVEMBER ELECTION."

WAYNE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Corydon, Iowa 50060

September 2, 1992

David LeRoy
3050 N. Lake Harbor Lane
Suite 100
Boise, Idaho 83703

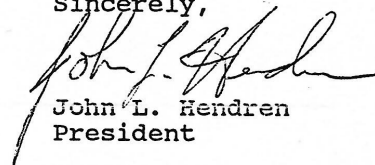
Dear Mr. LeRoy:

On behalf of the Wayne County Development Corporation I wish to express interest in the Monitored Retrievable Storage program. Information on this subject has been reviewed and discussed from a county-wide standpoint. We would like to move forward in exploring information on the MRS through the Phase IIa process.

It is requested, however, that the September 30, 1992 application deadline be extended toward the end of this year because this deadline time does not allow satisfactory time to prepare for application processing.

Please respond to this extension in order to keep us abreast of our options.

Sincerely,



John L. Hendren
President

cc: Gov. Terry Branstad

- Letter from Mr. John Hendren, President of the Wayne County Development Corporation, expressing interest in the MRS program.
- Noted deadline for Phase II Feasibility Study Grant (September 30, 1992) was a potential problem.
- Phase II deadline subsequently extended to March 31, 1993.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS (4)

- OCTOBER 30, 1992 – CONFERENCE CALL BETWEEN NUCLEAR WASTE NEGOTIATOR'S OFFICE, WCDC, AND DR. BULLEN TO DISCUSS STRATEGY TO APPROACH GOVERNOR BRANSTAD.
- NOVEMBER 2, 1992 – ELECTION DAY
- NOVEMBER 16, 1992 – WCDC SENT LETTER TO NUCLEAR WASTE NEGOTIATOR "OFFICIALLY" EXPRESSING INTEREST IN THE MRS FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT PROGRAM.
- NOVEMBER 24, 1992 – DR. BULLEN MET WITH IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON HIS EFFORTS WITH WAYNE COUNTY AND THE MRS FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT PROGRAM.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS (5)

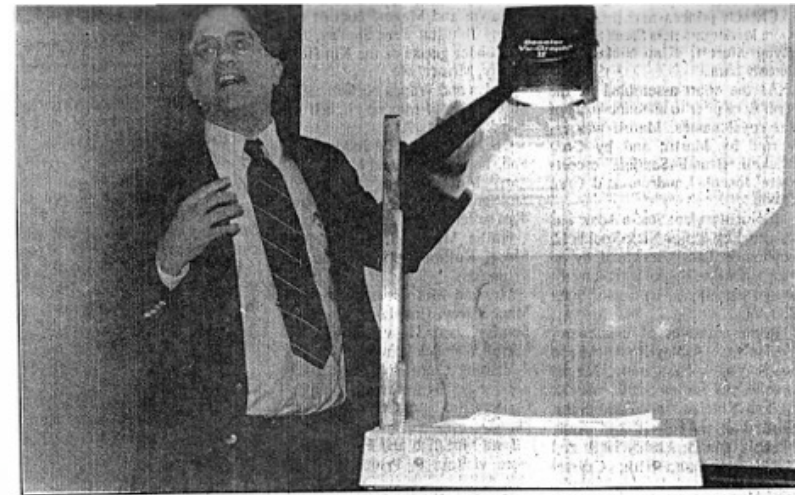
- DECEMBER 1, 1992 – NUCLEAR WASTE NEGOTIATOR STAFF MEMBERS (C. LEMPESIS AND B. MUSSLER) MET WITH WCDC.
- DECEMBER 15, 1992 - C. LEMPESIS AND B. MUSSLER MET WITH MR. DAVID ROEDERER (GOVERNOR'S CHIEF-OF-STAFF) AND MR. RICHARD VOHS (GOVERNOR'S PRESS SECRETARY) IN THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE.
- DECEMBER 30, 1992 – MR. ROEDERER CONTACTS MR. HENDREN (WCDC) AND SAYS GOVERNOR “WILL CONSIDER THE MRS ISSUE.”
- JANUARY 19, 1993 – MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 4 FEBRUARY 1993 WITH GOVERNOR BRANSTAD TO DISCUSS MRS FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT FOR WAYNE COUNTY.
- JANUARY 28, 1993 – CONFERENCE CALL BETWEEN NUCLEAR WASTE NEGOTIATOR, WCDC, AND DR. BULLEN TO DISCUSS MEETING WITH THE GOVERNOR.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS (6)

- FEBRUARY 4, 1993 – MEETING IN THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE WITH GOVERNOR BRANSTAD, MR. ROEDERER, MR. VOHS, MR. LEMPESIS, MR. MUSSLER, MR. HENDREN, MR. ALSHOUSE, AND DR. BULLEN.
 - GOVERNOR BRANSTAD INITIALLY VERY PESSIMISTIC.
 - DESCRIBED RECENT MEDICAL WASTE INCINERATOR ISSUES.
 - IDENTIFIED POTENTIAL PUBLIC AND POLITICAL BACKLASH.
 - LISTENED TO WCDC REQUEST FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT (PHASE II).
 - GOVERNOR EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE TECHNOLOGIES EMPLOYED IN THE MRS.
 - GOVERNOR BRANSTAD SUMMARIZED THE MEETING BY STATING:
 - “SUPPORTS NUCLEAR POWER.”
 - “WILL NOT BEHAVE AS A DEMAGOGUE ON THIS ISSUE.”
 - ”AGREED TO NOT OPPOSE INITIAL MRS STUDY.”

- February 9, 1993, article in the Corydon Times Republic covering the initial public meeting of the WCDC on February 6, 1993, to discuss the MRS Feasibility Study Grant Program.

- Dr. Bullen discussed the technical aspects of spent fuel storage.
- WCDC members discussed the Phase II Feasibility Study Grant Program.



During last Saturday's MRS informational meeting, Dan Bullen explains the testing procedure of spent fuel transportation containers.

Grant opportunity comes to Wayne County

By Johnnie Franklin and Nancy Hamar

The first step in exploring a Wayne County application for a \$200,000 Monitored Retrievable Storage (MRS) Feasibility Study Grant began on Feb. 6.

The informational meeting Saturday morning, was called by local banker John Hendren and R. D. Blount, recently appointed Wayne County Development director.

Blount opened the meeting by stating that the Wayne County Development Association is "neutral" on the issues of a grant application, and an MRS site in the county.

However, they will assist in the process of information sharing on a county-wide basis, Blount said.

Iowa State University associate professor of nuclear engineering Dr. Daniel Bullen defined an MRS as a site where spent nuclear fuel from nuclear reactors would be stored.

Hendren introduced Bullen after stating that his interest in the possibility of a Wayne County application for the grant comes from a professional interest in

economic development in the county.

"This issue is controversial and sensitive," he said. There will only be one site in the U.S. "The grant would be to find out what we are and what we could be in the future."

Bullen brought the idea of an MRS to Wayne County and the attention of Hendren and Blount after relocating to Iowa from Georgia, he said.

He considered approaching other counties where economic development would be beneficial, but settled on Wayne County because of his wife's family ties to the county.

She is the former Beth Clark, daughter of Wayne County resident, Lyle Clark.

Possible economic development benefits for Wayne County include improvements to highways, railroads, waterways, and airports; cleanup of air, water, or waste problems, help for public schools, help for health care facilities, public recreation programs, tax subsidies, and direct financial payments.

Also, the agreement to establish an MRS site in the county could

give Wayne County the negotiation power to have a factory for the manufacture of the spent fuel storage canisters located in the county.

That would mean additional jobs. Construction of the MRS site would require 250 to 1,000 workers.

Cost of construction of the facility would be paid for by money which is already set aside in a waste fund coming from a special fee on nuclear generated electricity.

No tax monies would be used for the construction.

Operation of the facility itself would provide between 100 and 500 permanent jobs.

Bullen said the \$200,000 MRS Feasibility Study Grant would be used to determine whether an MRS site should be located in Wayne County.

However, if the grant is applied for and accepted, Wayne County is under no obligation to accept the building of an MRS in the county.

MRS Cont. on p. 6

TIMELINE OF EVENTS (7)

- FEBRUARY 6, 1993 – INITIAL PUBLIC MEETING OF THE WCDC TO PRESENT THE MRS FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT PROGRAM.
- FEBRUARY 9, 1993 – FRONT PAGE ARTICLE IN THE *DES MOINES REGISTER*.
 - DISCUSSED MRS ISSUES FROM AN ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE
 - QUOTED MR. HENDREN, “WE’RE NOT A BUNCH OF CRAZY PEOPLE ESTABLISHING A NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP. WE’RE JUST TRYING TO GET MORE INFORMATION AT THIS POINT.”
 - QUOTED MR. VOHS SAYING, “GOVERNOR BRANSTAD WOULDN’T BLOCK THE STUDY BUT HE IS NOT SUPPORTING THEIR EFFORTS. THE GOVERNOR BELIEVES THE SAFETY, SOCIAL, AND POLITICAL ISSUES ARE STACKED AGAINST A DECISION TO PROCEED.”

The Des Moines Register

DES MOINES, IOWA ■ TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1993 ■ PRICE 35 CENTS

Can atomic fuel power job growth?

Wayne County eyes nuclear waste storage site as development tool

Supporters say a temporary facility would create hundreds of jobs.

Opponents say it isn't worth the risk.

By **PERRY BEEMAN**
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Job-hungry Wayne County is debating whether to seek a hot new employment prospect: an above-ground storage facility for highly radioactive used nuclear fuel.

Already, the Wayne County Development Corp., which made the proposal public over the weekend, has decided to seek a \$200,000 federal grant to see if the project would work on an undetermined 400- to 600-acre site. A majority of county supervisors said Monday they would support the grant application.

The others are uncertain.

"We're not a bunch of crazy people establish-

ing a nuclear waste dump," said John Hendren, a member of the fledgling development group's board. "We're just trying to get information at this point."

But even that step drags the south-central Iowa county — the third-poorest in the state — into a huge national controversy. The U.S. Department of Energy is seeking to open one, maybe two, "temporary" storage sites by 1998.

Decision Years Away

Ralph Alshouse, the development group's president, said, "This is really controversial. When people hear 'nuclear waste,' they say, 'Ah! No way!'" The group plans to meet today to begin forming a citizens panel to guide the information-gathering process. A decision on the next step could be two years away, Alshouse said.

Richard Vohs, a spokesman for Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad, said Branstad wouldn't block the study, but "is not supporting their effort.

The governor believes the safety, social and political issues are stacked against a decision to proceed," Vohs said.

The facility would store highly radioactive used fuel from nuclear reactors until it is taken to a permanent storage facility.

At this point, however, there are no permanent facilities. The nation's 111 nuclear power plants generally have stored all their used fuels in special pools at the plants. Only a few nuclear plants in Virginia and South Carolina use the type of above-ground storage technique that would be employed in Wayne County.

Federal Takeover

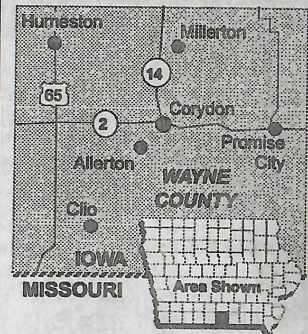
The federal government eventually must take the used fuels when a permanent storage site is constructed, but so far, the most prominent proposal for a permanent site — deep below the ground at Yucca Mountain, Nev. — has brought

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THE REGISTER

NUCLEAR WASTE

COUNTY OFFICIALS plan to launch a drive to make Wayne County the nation's repository for spent nuclear waste.



- February 9, 1992, front page article in the *Des Moines Register* summarizing Wayne County's interest in the MRS Feasibility Study Grant Program.

- In the article, Governor Branstad agreed not to block the study.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS (8)

- FEBRUARY 9, 1993 – MEETING OF THE WCDC TO DISCUSS PROCESS TO APPLY FOR AN MRS FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT. THIRTY SEVEN OUT OF FORTY INDIVIDUAL ATTENDING THE MEETING OPPOSED ANY DISCUSSION ABOUT THE MRS STUDY.
- FEBRUARY 13, 1993 – ADDITIONAL MEETING OF THE WCDC CALLED TO DISCUSS THE MRS PROPOSAL. WCDC VOTED TO ABANDON ALL EFFORTS TO PURSUE AN MRS FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT.
 - OPPOSITION QUICKLY ORGANIZED BY A LOCAL BUSINESSMAN.
 - SIGNIFICANT EFFORT BY LOCAL BUSINESS LEADERS TO PREVENT ANY PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUES RELATED TO THE MRS FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT PROGRAM.
 - NEW PRESIDENT OF THE WCDC, MR. RALPH ALSHOUSE, RESIGNED TO CONTINUE THE MRS EFFORTS.

Nuclear fuel storage site plan rejected; booster quits

By PERRY BEEMAN
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

The new president of a Wayne County business group resigned abruptly this week and vowed to pursue a controversial proposal to check the feasibility of a nuclear-waste storage



facility in the county.

Ralph Alshouse, who had headed the Wayne County Development Corp. since Feb. 1, resigned Tuesday night, a day after calling critics of the study "stupid" and saying they should reserve judgment until a feasibility study could be done.

The development group had pushed for the county supervisors to seek a \$200,000 federal grant to see whether an above-ground storage facility for used nuclear fuel could be built in the south-central county.

However, the group pulled its support of the study Saturday — and reaffirmed the stance Tuesday night — after hundreds of area residents and people from neighboring Missouri counties strenuously objected. Most residents feared for their safety, particularly because the highly radioactive spent rods would come from throughout the country to the "temporary" storage facility, which would be the

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Nuclear waste plan rejected

WASTE

Continued from Page 1M

only such facility in the United States.

John Hendren, who preceded Alshouse as the development group's president, said Alshouse indicated Tuesday night that he wanted to continue to pursue the study. After board members said that would amount to a conflict of interest because the group rejected the proposal, Alshouse resigned, Hendren said. No successor was named.

"We've seen a unification rise, and hopefully that is where our group is going," Hendren said. "The goals are the betterment of Wayne County, and (the nuclear storage facility) is not part of that."

Alshouse could not be reached for comment. There were reports that Alshouse, former mayor of Seymour, was meeting with Seymour-area residents about the grant possibility.

Supporters of the feasibility study have contended that Wayne County — the third-poorest county in Iowa — has nothing to lose by checking into the idea. The procedures set by the independent Office of the Nuclear Waste Negotiator allow grant applicants to withdraw from consideration at any time.

Daniel Bullen of Iowa State University's nuclear-engineering department estimated the facility could mean as many as 1,000 construction jobs and 500 permanent jobs. The waste would be stored in special concrete-and-steel enclosures called "casks" on a concrete pad on 400 to 500 acres of farmland.

- February 18, 1993, Des Moines Register article noting public opposition to the Phase II grant application, which was quickly mobilized, resulting in the WCDC voting to not pursue a Phase II grant.
- President of the WCDC, Mr. Ralph Alshouse, resigned and continued efforts with another community in Wayne County.

WAYNE COUNTY

Petition urges study of storage facility for nuclear waste

There was a huge outcry against even looking into the possibility of storing radioactive waste in containers on a farm.

By **PERRY BEEMAN**
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

A man who wants to study whether Wayne County should have a nuclear-waste storage facility said he hasn't given up the fight.

Ralph Alshouse, former president of the Wayne County Development Corp., said he is circulating petitions supporting the study.

An advertisement in the Corydon Times-Republican this week will ask people to support the study, said Alshouse, adding that residents have not fully learned of the project's benefits.

"We may have lost every battle, but I think we will win the war," he said. "We are gaining momentum."

A group called Citizens for a Nuclear Free Wayne County is fighting the study, which was first proposed weeks ago while Alshouse still led the development group in south-central Iowa. The organization was

lured by the promise of thousands of jobs and millions of dollars for public improvements.

After a huge outcry against even studying the possibility of storing the highly radioactive waste in above-ground containers on a farm, the development group shelved the idea. Residents feared for their safety.

Alshouse resigned, then organized another group of business representatives to see whether a local city council or the Wayne County Board of Supervisors would be willing to seek a federal grant for the study.

The application deadline is March 31.

R.D. Blount, administrator of the development corporation, said he doubts Alshouse's effort will succeed.

The federal government is searching for a place to store the used fuel for at least several decades.

Bill requires permit for nuclear-waste disposal

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Legislature should be able to block nuclear-waste disposal in Iowa, the Senate agreed this week.

The Senate voted 49-1 for a bill requiring House and Senate approval of any permit for nuclear-waste storage or disposal in Iowa.

The bill goes to the House.



- March 25, 1993, *Des Moines Register* article.
- Former WCDC President, Mr. Ralph Alshouse, initiated a petition expressing support for Phase II grant prior to application deadline of March 31, 1993. The petition effort failed to gain significant support.
- Iowa State Senate passed a bill (49-1) requiring legislative approval of any "permit for nuclear waste storage or disposal in Iowa."

LESSONS LEARNED FROM IOWA MRS EFFORT

- EXTENSIVE EFFORT TO IDENTIFY A POTENTIAL INTERESTED LOCALITY
 - PERSONAL CONTACTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY
 - COMMUNITY MOTIVATION AND POTENTIAL BENEFITS DISCUSSION
- CONTACTS WITH LOCAL, COUNTY AND STATE GOVERNMENT ESSENTIAL
 - LONG-TERM EFFORTS REQUIRED
 - SHOULD NOT BE “SCHEDULE DRIVEN” – GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINES IMPACTED THIS EFFORT
- NEED TO UNDERSTAND ALL RAMIFICATIONS OF THE EFFORT
 - POLITICAL
 - SOCIAL
 - ECONOMIC

KEY BROAD LESSONS

- SITING AND DEVELOPMENT PROCESS IS DECADES LONG
- NEED FOR ENDURING POLITICAL STABILITY AND SUPPORT
 - CHANGES IN GOVERNANCE IN BOTH STATES AND TRIBES HAS DELAYED OR STOPPED EFFORTS (E.G., MESCALERO TRIBE, INTERIM STORAGE PARTNERS, AND HOLTEC)
 - FEDERAL POLICY CHANGES HAVE STOPPED PROGRAMS (MRS AND YUCCA)
- STATES HAVE LARGE ROLE IN DETERMINING WHETHER A FACILITY CAN BE SITED AND OPERATED (E.G., PERMITS BEYOND A LICENSE ARE NEEDED)
- HISTORY OF MISTRUST HAS RESULTED