

YUCCA MOUNTAIN TASK FORCE

Overview

Background

The Yucca Mountain Task Force is a joint bipartisan national initiative of the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition, U.S. Transport Council, Decommissioning Plant Coalition, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Prairie Island Indian Community and other organizations that collectively represent state regulatory authorities, nuclear utilities, Indian Community and businesses with principal operations throughout the United States.

Purpose

To accomplish the construction and operation of a safe Federal facility for spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, within the shortest time frame possible consistent with public health and safety.

Objectives

The Task Force principal goals are to galvanize national grassroots support for:

1. Obtaining a comprehensive funding solution for Yucca Mountain licensing and development that ensures both necessary funding and full appropriation of the more than \$750M collected annually from nuclear energy consumers.
2. Facilitating timely development of a final Yucca Mountain radiation standard either administratively or legislatively.
3. Encouraging the DOE to submit a high-quality licensing application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in a timely manner.
4. Fostering and encouraging exemplary standards of quality assurance, accountability and integrity in the activities of the Yucca Mountain program.
5. Facilitating a national Yucca Mountain transportation and waste acceptance system.

Programs

The key activities of the Task Force include:

- Re-energizing the national coalition that successfully achieved overwhelming approval in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate to proceed with licensing and development of Yucca Mountain consistent with the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, amended.
- Recruiting Task Force Chairs in 41 states whose ratepayers pay into the Nuclear Waste Fund.
- Resolving the longstanding impasse between U.S. House and Senate leaders over fundamental funding and programmatic Yucca Mountain project issues.
- Serving as a national clearinghouse for other like-minded national and state organizations and elected officials.
- Providing a fresh new voice to the critical importance of expeditious implementation of the Yucca Mountain program given vital economic, energy and national security considerations -- as well as the importance of progress on Yucca Mountain to new nuclear energy plant operation.

Co- Chairmen

The Honorable David Wright
Commissioner
South Carolina Public Service Commission

The Honorable Charles P. Pray
Nuclear Safety Advisor
State of Maine

Vice Chairs

The Honorable LeRoy Koppendraye
Chairman, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, and
Chairman, Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition

The Honorable Robert M. Garvin
Commissioner, Wisconsin Public Utility Commission

For Further Information:

David Blee, Executive Director
U.S. Transport Council
Tel: 202.332.8155
Email: dblee@forrestalgrp.com

Martez Norris, Executive Director
Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition
Tel: 910.295.6658
Email: thenwsc@nc.rr.com