



MIDLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION OF THE CONSOLIDATED INTERIM OR PERMANENT STORAGE OR DISPOSAL OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE IN WEST TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO OR THE TRANSPORTATION OF HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE THROUGH OR AROUND THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF MIDLAND FOR SAID PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the Midland Chamber of Commerce is committed to creating the best business climate on the planet; and

WHEREAS, Waste Control Specialists (“WCS”) has applied to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a license to store up to 40,000 tons of irradiated fuel from nuclear power reactors that includes uranium, plutonium, and other radioactive elements that must be isolated for thousands of years or longer at WCS’s facility in Andrews County; and

WHEREAS, WCS’s facility in Andrews County is located in close proximity with the City of Midland and substantial oil and gas energy reserves, which provide the United States with a freedom from necessarily relying on other counties for its domestic energy needs; and

WHEREAS, if WCS’s application is approved, said irradiated fuel may soon be shipped to WCS’s facility in Andrews County by rail or on interstate roadway through or around the corporate limits of the City of Midland; and

WHEREAS, exposure to radioactivity is known to lead to birth defects, genetic damage, and various types of cancer; and

WHEREAS, an accident releasing only a small amount of radioactivity could contaminate a forty-two (42) square-mile area and any associated clean-up costs, according to the U.S. Department of Energy, could cost from \$620 million in a rural area to \$9.5 billion in a large city; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Midland and the Permian Basin must be protected from said radioactive contamination that could result from accidents, radiation releases or leaks, or terrorist actions during the thousands of high-level radioactive waste shipments that would occur for a period of 24 years if WCS’s application is approved; and





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WHEREAS, the substantial oil and gas reserves on which the United States' energy independence relies upon must be protected from said radioactive contamination from accidents, radiation releases or leaks, or terrorist actions; and

WHEREAS, the Midland Chamber of Commerce finds it to be in the interest of the business community to oppose the consolidated interim or permanent storage or disposal of radioactive waste in West Texas or New Mexico or the transportation of high-level radioactive waste through or around the corporate limits of the City of Midland for said purposes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Midland Chamber of Commerce hereby opposes the consolidated interim or permanent storage or disposal of radioactive waste in west Texas or New Mexico or the transportation of high-level radioactive waste through or around the corporate limits of the City of Midland for said purposes.

Passed on this the 8th day of January 2019.

Chairman
Midland Chamber of Commerce

President & CEO
Midland Chamber of Commerce

