

Pro-Yucca group presses for legislative fix to move dump forward

Nothing new but visible support.

KRTV (Nevada)
March 29, 2006

Supporters of a proposed nuclear waste dump in Nevada called today for the Bush administration and Congress to support legislation to move the project forward.

The Yucca Mountain Task Force expressed support for several proposals reportedly being considered for inclusion in a bill expected soon from the Energy Department. Those proposals include dedicating a special fund to the project, withdrawing public land around the property, expanding its capacity and allowing interim storage of waste at the site.

The Energy Department has not disclosed final details of the expected legislation. Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman said in early March he hoped the bill would be done "within the month."

The long-delayed dump about 90 miles northwest of Las Vegas has cost nine billion dollars so far but remains years away from opening. Energy officials had most recently set 2012 as the projected opening date but have backed off that goal. The original target was 1998.