

Possible Compromise Over Transportation of Nuclear Waste to Yucca Mountain

Sensible people

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The Walker River Paiute Tribe has agreed to allow the Department of Energy to consider a new rail route across its land for transportation of Yucca Mountain nuclear waste.

At the same time, tribal leaders stress they will not approve the route unless all safety issues are studied in detail and a ban of waste transportation on US 95 is considered.

The highway bisects the reservation. Tribal Chairman Genia Williams says safety is the main factor for the tribe's decision to allow studies of a new rail route that would take high-level nuclear waste around the Schurz area.

Current plans call for placing the rail route through the northern portion of the reservation, miles away from the Schurz area.

The government has been working on plans to locate the nation's nuclear waste dump at Yucca Mountain, about 90 miles northwest of Las Vegas.