

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
MUNICIPALITY OF LAKE ARTHUR, NEW MEXICO
RESOLUTION NO. 2017-13

WHEREAS; Eddy, Lea and Chaves County in New Mexico are targeted for forty years or more of storage for the nation's most dangerous nuclear reactor waste, which could lead to dangerous defacto permanent dumps, and importing high-level radioactive waste would put millions of people at risk for financial and health impacts from potential accidents or incidents; and

WHEREAS; Transporting high-level waste for the purpose of consolidated storage would unnecessarily increase risks of accidents or terrorism activity, and the waste would likely travel through the New Mexico region, where people, schools, businesses, and other activities are located; and

WHEREAS; High level radioactive waste should remain secured at or near the site of generation and be transported only once, when scientifically viable permanent disposal site becomes available; and

WHEREAS; High-level radioactive waste consists of irradiated (spent) fuel from nuclear power reactors and/or weapons production that includes uranium, plutonium and other radioactive elements that must be isolated for thousands of years or longer. The waste on a single train car would likely contain as much plutonium as was in the bomb dropped on Nagasaki; and

WHEREAS, Exposure to radioactivity is known to lead to birth defects, genetic damage, and cancers and unshielded exposure to high-level radioactive waste could give a lethal dose; and

WHEREAS; Our lives, land and water must be protected from radioactive contamination which could result from accidents, radiation releases or leaks, or terrorist actions during the thousand high-level radioactive waste shipments that would occur for a period of 24 years if consolidated storage is licensed; and

WHEREAS; An accident releasing only a small amount of radioactivity could contaminate a 42-square mile area. A DOE study found that cleanup could cost \$620 million in a rural area and \$9.5 billion in the most heavily contaminated square mile of a large city; and

WHEREAS; Small communities with largely Hispanic populations and few resources to fight back are being targeted to host the radioactive waste dumps, an example of extreme environmental injustice; and

WHEREAS; many states have previously rejected consolidated high-level radioactive waste storage or disposal, New Mexico has no commercial nuclear power plants, and New Mexicans have opposed spent fuel storage and disposal for years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the municipality of Lake Arthur in the county of Chaves and in the State of New Mexico does not support or consent to consolidated interim storage of radioactive waste in New Mexico and nearby Texas, or the transportation of high-level radioactive waste on our railways or highways for the purpose of consolidated storage or permanent disposal of high-level radioactive waste in New Mexico or Texas.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED: this, 7th day of September, year.

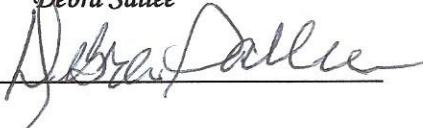


Ysidro Salazar, Mayor

9/7/2017

Date

ATTEST:

Debra Sallee


9/7/17

Date