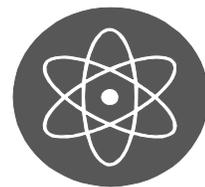
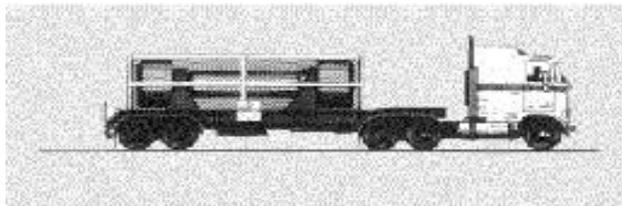
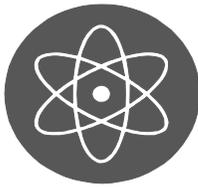


# **Nuclear Waste Transport to Nevada? Don't Bet The Farm On It**

**In 2002 the President designated Yucca Mountain, Nevada as the nation's dumpsite for high-level nuclear waste from nuclear power plants. But the State of Nevada has filed five lawsuits to stop the project:**

- 1) Environmental Impacts lawsuit: Nevada sued the Department of Energy because the Environmental Impact Statement has crucial information gaps, ignores public concerns, and does not adequately predict environmental impacts on Yucca Mountain.
- 2) Nuclear Waste Policy Act lawsuit: After years of study, the DOE found Yucca Mountain unsuitable for burying nuclear waste because of water infiltration, earthquakes and volcanic activity. DOE illegally changed the rules to make Yucca Mountain meet the guidelines.
- 3) Nevada v. EPA: The Environmental Protection Agency's health standards do not protect residents living near Yucca Mountain from radioactive contamination in drinking water.
- 4) Nevada v. NRC: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission illegally revised regulations for licensing the Yucca Mountain repository.
- 5) Constitutional lawsuit: Nevada's Governor vetoed the selection Yucca Mountain. The federal government is violating the State of Nevada's sovereign rights by forcing it to take 77,000 tons of nuclear waste against its will.

**The US Court of Appeals has indefinitely postponed the court date for the Yucca Mountain lawsuits.**



## **NUCLEAR WASTE TRANSPORT CASKS ARE NOT SAFE**

Radioactive waste shipments to Nevada would expose residents living along transport routes to health risks because transport casks leak radiation. NRC regulations allow 10 mrem/hour at 2 meters from the cask surface. "People who live or work within 20 to 130 feet of a nuclear waste highway route, or within 20 to 160 feet of a nuclear waste rail route, could potentially receive yearly radiation doses equal to a significant percentage of, or even in excess of, average annual background doses." (d) In the United States, members of the general public annually receive an average background radiation dose of about 360 millirem from a combination of natural and man-made sources.

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(d) Radiation Exposures From Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Nuclear Waste Transportation to a Geologic Repository or Interim Storage Facility in Nevada, Robert J. Halstead, 1998

## **BLUE RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE LEAGUE**

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