

## Northeast U.S. governors object to nuclear waste storage

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Vermont Governor Jim Douglas and other Northeastern governors are objecting to a Senate proposal that would allow nuclear waste to continue to be stored in their states.

Members of the Coalition of Northeastern Governors have written to key Senate leaders objecting to the proposal, included in a larger spending bill.

The governors say the plan could result in spent fuel being stored at local or regional storage facilities in as many as 31 states.

They say there's already 50,000 tons of nuclear waste awaiting permanent storage.

Plans to open a repository at Yucca Mountain northwest of Las Vegas have been pushed back to 2017. Democratic Senator Patrick Leahy of Vermont serves on the Appropriations Committee that approved the bill.

He says he'll fight to remove the provision as the bill continues moving through the Congress.

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