

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5233

To terminate the Yucca Mountain licensing proceeding and require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to submit to Congress a study on the economic viability and job-creating benefits of alternative uses of the Yucca Mountain site, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 4, 2026

Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To terminate the Yucca Mountain licensing proceeding and require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to submit to Congress a study on the economic viability and job-creating benefits of alternative uses of the Yucca Mountain site, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Jobs, Not Waste Act
5 of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
 2 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
 3 gress” means—

4 (A) the Committee on Environment and
 5 Public Works of the Senate;

6 (B) the Committee on Energy and Natural
 7 Resources of the Senate; and

8 (C) the Committee on Energy and Com-
 9 merce of the House of Representatives.

10 (2) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
 11 means the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

12 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
 13 the Secretary of Energy.

14 (4) YUCCA MOUNTAIN SITE.—The term “Yucca
 15 Mountain site” has the meaning given the term in
 16 section 2 of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982
 17 (42 U.S.C. 10101).

18 **SEC. 3. TERMINATION OF THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN LICENS-**
 19 **ING PROCEEDING.**

20 (a) REPEALS.—

21 (1) NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT PROVISION.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 160 of the Nu-
 23 clear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C.
 24 10172) is repealed.

1 (B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of
2 contents in section 1 of the Nuclear Waste Pol-
3 icy Act of 1982 (Public Law 97–425; 96 Stat.
4 2201, 101 Stat. 1330–255) is amended by
5 striking the item relating to section 160.

6 (2) PUBLIC LAW 107–200.—Public Law 107–
7 200 (42 U.S.C. 10135 note; 116 Stat. 735) is re-
8 pealed.

9 (b) TERMINATION.—Effective on the date of enact-
10 ment of this Act—

11 (1) the application for a construction authoriza-
12 tion for a repository at the Yucca Mountain site
13 filed with the Commission by the Secretary is with-
14 drawn; and

15 (2) the Commission licensing proceeding for the
16 proposed repository at the Yucca Mountain site is
17 terminated.

18 (c) PROHIBITION ON FUTURE CONSIDERATION.—
19 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, beginning on
20 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall not
21 consider (or reconsider) the Yucca Mountain site for the
22 location of a repository.

23 (d) RECLAMATION AND MITIGATION.—As soon as
24 practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the
25 Secretary shall take all reasonable and necessary steps—

1 (1) to reclaim the Yucca Mountain site; and

2 (2) to mitigate any significant adverse environ-
3 mental impacts caused by site characterization and
4 other activities associated with the filing of the ap-
5 plication for a construction authorization referred to
6 in subsection (b)(1).

7 **SEC. 4. STUDY ON THE ECONOMIC BENEFIT OF ALTER-**
8 **NATIVE USES OF THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN**
9 **SITE.**

10 Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
11 of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and
12 Budget shall submit to the appropriate committees of
13 Congress, and make available to the public, a study on
14 the economic viability and job-creating benefits of alter-
15 native uses of the Yucca Mountain site as described in
16 the report of the Government Accountability Office num-
17 bered GAO–11–847 and dated September 2011, includ-
18 ing—

19 (1) defense activities, such as a command facil-
20 ity for unmanned aircraft systems;

21 (2) the development of renewable energy
22 sources; and

23 (3) scientific research.

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