

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2508

To prohibit the Department of Energy from disposing low-level radioactive waste in certain landfills.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 18, 2003

Mr. INSLEE (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. DICKS, Mr. McDERMOTT, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To prohibit the Department of Energy from disposing low-level radioactive waste in certain landfills.

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 “Safe Disposal of Low-
5 Level Radioactive Waste Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION.**

7 (a) AMENDMENT.—Subtitle C of the Solid Waste
8 Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6921 et seq.) is amended by add-
9 ing at the end the following new section:

1 **“SEC. 3024. DISPOSAL OF LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE.**

2 “(a) PROHIBITION.—

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
4 graph (2), after December 31, 2003, the Depart-
5 ment of Energy shall not dispose of any low-level ra-
6 dioactive waste in a landfill that does not meet all
7 requirements and standards applicable to landfills
8 containing hazardous waste under Federal law, or
9 under a State regulatory program authorized by sec-
10 tion 3006, with respect to landfill lining, leachate
11 collection systems, and groundwater and soil column
12 monitoring systems.

13 “(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not
14 apply to disposal by the Department of Energy of
15 sealed reactor compartments and reactor compo-
16 nents from Naval nuclear-powered warships and pro-
17 totypes as permitted under this Act or under a State
18 program authorized by section 3006, where a per-
19 formance assessment or analysis in an environmental
20 impact statement demonstrates that the sealed na-
21 ture of the metal compartment or reactor component
22 will significantly outlast and exceed performance
23 standards for a liner system.

24 “(b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
25 term ‘low-level radioactive waste’ has the meaning given
26 such term in section 2 of the Low-Level Radioactive Waste

1 Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 2021b), but does not include mixed
2 waste.

3 “(c) APPLICABILITY.—For purposes of the applica-
4 tion of section 6001 to the requirements of this section,
5 low-level radioactive waste shall be considered solid
6 waste.”.

7 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENT.—The table
8 of contents for such subtitle C is amended by adding at
9 the end the following new item:

“Sec. 3024. Disposal of low-level radioactive waste.”.

