

## **2014 ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

### **REQUIRE THAT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FOCUS ON THE SAFE TREATMENT AND STORAGE OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE ON-SITE WHERE APPROPRIATE TO MITIGATE HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS OF TRANSPORTING LOW, HIGH AND MIXED LEVEL WASTE TO OFFSITE TREATMENT FACILITIES**

**WHEREAS,** The United States Conference of Mayors recognizes that the treatment of nuclear waste is a regional and national issue that requires the collaboration of all levels of government to develop practical and safe solutions; and

**WHEREAS,** nuclear waste treatment sites across the U. S. have documented leakage of strontium-90, tritium, uranium, and technetium-99, among other toxic pollutants, into the groundwater; and

**WHEREAS,** future receipt of off-site waste at these sites are projected to have significant adverse long-term impacts on the groundwater, which ultimately impact other bodies of water; and

**WHEREAS,** transporting low, high, and mixed level radioactive materials across the nation on major interstates, highways and railways will expose countless communities across the country to hazardous radiation; and

**WHEREAS,** a study by the Department of Energy several years ago estimated that over 800 adults would die from cancer due to radiation emitted from trucks in the Northwest region alone; and

Formerly found at [http://www.usmayors.org/resolutions/82nd\\_Conference/](http://www.usmayors.org/resolutions/82nd_Conference/)

**WHEREAS**, a truck or railway accident or terrorist attack involving transported low, high and mixed level nuclear waste would render entire cities and surrounding areas uninhabitable; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the American Society of Civil Engineers, our nation's crumbling infrastructure and system of highways, roads, and bridges is rated a D+; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Energy has announced it intends to transport Uranium 233 waste from Oak Ridge, Tennessee to Las Vegas, Nevada for burial at the Nevada National Security Site; and

**WHEREAS**, in February 2014 a truck delivering radioactive waste caught on fire at New Mexico's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP); and

**WHEREAS**, in the event of a radiological emergency in or near a city, significant impacts could create a financial burden of millions of dollars to the emergency management agencies charged with protecting the health, safety and welfare of its citizens and visitors,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors calls on the U.S. Department of Energy to focus on the treatment and storage of radioactive waste on-site to avoid further health and environmental impacts from the transportation of waste produced from other decommissioned nuclear facilities; and NOW, THEREFORE

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors calls upon its membership to be knowledgeable about the U.S. Department of Energy's planned routes, quantities, and timing to ship radioactive Uranium 233 waste along 2,000+ miles between Tennessee and Nevada.

Projected Cost: Unknown

*RESOLUTION ADOPTED 82<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL MEETING, JUNE 20-23, 2014, DALLAS, TX*