

# SNF a State Legislative Perspective

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Delegate Sally Y. Jameson  
Maryland House of Delegates  
Chair, NCSL Agriculture & Energy  
Committee

# National Conference of State Legislatures

- Non-profit, bi-partisan organization
- Members include all the state legislative bodies and their members — 7,500 legislators — and about 30,000 legislative staff.
- Offices in Denver and D.C.
- Among our goals - To provide legislatures with information about policy issue areas they address.

# NCSL Committees

- NCSL Agriculture & Energy Committee and NCSL Environment Committee hold joint jurisdiction over the related SNF policies:
  - Radioactive Waste
  - Federal Facilities Management

# State Legislative Role

- Developing state nuclear energy policy
- Meeting with our respective Congressional delegations
- Maintain relationships with U.S. Department of Energy officials

# State Legislative Role

- Over the last year there has been a significant reduction in the department's state legislative outreach and legislators have felt that they have had to fight for a seat at the table.

# NCSL Radioactive Waste Policy

NCSL urges Congress and the administration/DOE to:

- Work closely with state legislatures, local governments and governors to bring about interim storage for used nuclear fuel for the United States for a specific, limited period of time.
- Create a process that includes working closely with the nuclear industry and interested volunteer communities, localities and states.
- Pursue the development of one or two private Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensed, interim storage facilities to which used nuclear fuel can be safely shipped and stored until such time as a permanent repository is open and commercial nuclear fuel recycling facilities are available.
- Develop financing mechanisms, using the Nuclear Waste Fund, to support interim storage facilities.
- Determine the Department of Energy's role and responsibilities under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act in moving used nuclear fuel, including fuel from decommissioned plant sites, to interim storage facilities.
- If off-site interim storage of used nuclear fuel is enacted by Congress, the timeframe for storing such waste at interim storage sites should be no longer than 25 years.

# NCSL Radioactive Waste Policy

- Recycling high-level waste/SNF should be a radioactive waste management priority. NCSL encourages Congress and the Administration to:
- Adequately plan for the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) in its development of a safe, cost-effective recycling program.

# NCSL Radioactive Waste Policy

- Allow funding for appropriate recycling actions from the Nuclear Waste Fund, to include GNEP activities which accomplish initiation of high-level waste/SNF recycling to reduce the volume of waste requiring final disposal in a permanent repository.



# Transportation

- NCSL, through its High Level Waste Working Group, has a long history of work on issues relating to the transportation of used nuclear fuel.
- NCSL recognizes the implications of any policy that shifts from DOE being the sole shipper to one where there are multiple private shippers and expects to be involved in any decisions.