



STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

April 19, 1993

ANN W. RICHARDS

GOVERNOR

The Honorable Clyde Alexander  
Texas House of Representatives  
P. O. Box 2910  
Austin, Texas 78769

Dear Representative Alexander:

I appreciate your efforts to pass legislation this session which will allow Texas to enter into a compact with Maine and Vermont for disposal of low-level radioactive waste.

As we have discussed, the only way for Texas to ensure that the waste disposal facility planned for Hudspeth County cannot be forced to accept waste from any other state is to form an interstate compact. The committee substitute bill that has been agreed upon by your staff representatives, the states of Maine and Vermont, and my office will provide the protection we desire. It will also guard against any risk of the Hudspeth County facility becoming a national or regional dump site, and limit the total volume of out-of-state waste to a maximum of twenty percent of all waste disposed in the facility.

I'm sure you are also aware that the State of Connecticut has expressed interest in joining the Texas compact or in otherwise amending the legislation to open the door for waste shipments from Connecticut. I have explained to Governor Weicker that I am not willing to include states other than Maine and Vermont in the compact bill. After we are satisfied that the Texas disposal facility is operating safely and efficiently, and if we determine that accepting waste shipments from Connecticut would benefit Texas in some significant way, I may be willing to reopen discussions with Governor Weicker. I do not believe, however, that further amendments to the committee substitute are advisable or necessary, as the bill already gives the compact commission authority to consider contracting for waste shipments on a case by case basis.

Thank you again for your hard work on this complex and controversial legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ann W. Richards".

ANN W. RICHARDS  
Governor