

RESOLUTION NO. 2016 - _____

A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS NON-PIT PLUTONIUM, SUPPORTING THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE AND ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT TO MOVE FORWARD WITH PROCESS TO DISPOSE OF THAT WASTE AT WIPP.

WHEREAS, the citizens of Carlsbad have benefitted greatly from this community's close relationship with the Department of Energy's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), an underground repository for defense-generated, transuranic (TRU) waste; and

WHEREAS, WIPP has served the entire nation by providing a safe, permanent destination for this TRU waste, including completing legacy cleanup at 21 locations around the country; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy has issued a notice indicating its Preferred Alternative for the disposal of 6.6 tons of surplus non-pit plutonium at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant by down-blending and terminating safeguards; and

WHEREAS, these 6.6 tons are not to be confused with a different 34 tons of weapons grade plutonium, also from the Savannah River Site, in which down-blending and disposal are also currently being considered as an option; and

WHEREAS, this material considered for the WIPP facility could not be used in the creation of weapons and would be packaged to meet all requirements for disposal at WIPP; and

WHEREAS, No regulatory changes would be needed to bring this surplus plutonium to the WIPP facility as contact-handled transuranic waste; and

WHEREAS, the process for disposal of this waste stream is in place, with more than 3 tons of similar plutonium-bearing waste already sent to WIPP, and there is room available in the underground facility; and

WHEREAS, WIPP is a world-class facility designed for such use, and disposing of this waste in the WIPP underground will safely isolate it from the environment and preclude proliferation forever; and the

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Carlsbad Governing Body, recognizing that it is in this nation's best interest for this surplus, non-pit plutonium to be safely and permanently isolated at WIPP, supports the DOE's Preferred Alternative and encourages the DOE to begin moving forward with the processes necessary to dispose of this waste at WIPP.

INTRODUCED, PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED THIS _____ day of _____,
2016.

DALE JANWAY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

City Clerk