

CONVERSATIONS UNLIMITED - Tuesday, Nov. 11, 1986

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. Even the stoutest advocate of nuclear power will agree that peaceful uses of the atom have also developed problems for society to solve. One of them is safe disposal of radioactive waste. Nuclear power plants use relatively large amounts of uranium to develop the heat needed to make electricity. But other places ~~also~~ generate low-level waste, including hospitals, industries and even schools. This waste cannot be used up during a normal lifetime, and it cannot be left where people can come in contact with it. What to do? New York State has a new law that outlines a solution. Over the next few months, and years, you'll be hearing a lot about this.

Today, I'll be talking with Dr. Sheldon Reaven. He is fresh from chairing a conference on this subject at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, where he is a professor in the Department of Technology and Society. Dr. Reaven, New York isn't going to have an easy time of it, finding a site for disposing of its low-level radioactive waste, is it.

INTERVIEW DR. REAVEN:

-- Define:

- * Radioactivity
- * Low-level waste
- * High-level waste

-- Review present laws

-- Review present practices

- * Three federal sites
- * Former site in NYS

-- Why new federal law

-- Why not a Northeastern regional confederation?

-- New York's law

- * Brief outline of actions
- * Note dates leading up to 1/1/93

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A PROFESSOR
WASTE MGMT.
Inst. of MSRE

produces the high-level waste we're all familiar with. This
to low-level waste.

- Who will decide?
 - * Makeup of siting commission
 - * Makeup of advisory board
 - * Public hearings
- What are other nations doing?
- How can public get involved?

14:00

We'll take a short break now. When we return, I'll be talking with Shelon Reaven about the conference he recently chaired on the subject of radioactive waste policies. Some interesting ideas were explored, and we'll talk about some of them. Stay with us, please.
BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. I'm Al Oickle. I'm talking with Dr. Sheldon Reaven of the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He headed up a conference there in early November on radioactive waste policy issues affecting New York State. Governor Cuomo recently signed a law requiring a low-level waste facility in New York State. Tell us a bit about the conference, Dr. Reaven: who attended, where they came from.

INTERVIEW DR. REAVEN:

- The Conference:
 - * Participants from other states
 - * Observers from New York state government
- Session on stakeholder concerns:
 - * in siting process
 - * lessons from other states
- Session on stakeholder concerns in assessing radioactive waste disposal technologies
- Session on reconciling stakeholder positions
- Off-beat ideas:
 - * burying in ocean
 - * spatial orbit
 - * single international site

29:00

OUTRO

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PROMO - For use no later than 5:55 p.m. Nov. 11, 1986

Hi, everybody. This is Al Oickle. You can hear me on Conversations Unlimited every Tuesday at 6 p.m. here on WUSB. This week I'll be talking with Sheldon Reaven about radioactive waste. What can we do with the waste that comes from nuclear power plants? Hospitals and schools also generate radioactive waste. Should we bury it? New York State has a plan, and Dr. Reaven will tell us all about it. That's Conversations Unlimited, Tuesday, at 6 p.m., on WUSB - 90.1 FM.