



## 1997 ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 16

March 2, 1998 – Introduced by Representatives DUFF, HUTCHISON, MUSSER and OTT.  
Referred to Committee on Environment.

1     **Relating to:** the federal Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1997.

2             Whereas, the U.S. house of representatives passed H.R. 1270, 105th Cong., 1st  
3     Sess. (1997), addressing the federal government's management of used nuclear fuel,  
4     on October 30, 1997, by a vote of 307-120 and the U.S. senate passed S. 104, 105th  
5     Cong., 1st Sess. (1997), addressing the same subject, on April 15, by a vote of 65 to  
6     34; and

7             Whereas, the federal Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 set January 31, 1998,  
8     as the deadline for the U.S. department of energy to begin accepting used fuel from  
9     commercial nuclear reactors; and

10            Whereas, the U.S. department of energy has failed to live up to its obligations  
11     under that act, despite having had 15 years to establish a central storage facility for  
12     these materials; and

13            Whereas, without legislative action by the U.S. Congress, the U.S. department  
14     of energy will not begin accepting used nuclear fuel from commercial nuclear  
15     reactors until the year 2010; and

1           Whereas, American electrical ratepayers have paid the federal government  
2           \$14,000,000,000, of which Wisconsin electrical utility customers have contributed  
3           \$372,000,000, to finance the construction of a central storage facility for used nuclear  
4           fuel; and

5           Whereas, without legislative action by the U.S. Congress, the nation's electrical  
6           consumers may have to pay another \$5,000,000,000 in fees for additional temporary  
7           storage facilities at nuclear power plants in Wisconsin and throughout the United  
8           States; and

9           Whereas, 105 H.R. 1270 and 105 S. 104 require the U.S. department of energy  
10          to develop a management plan which includes a temporary central storage facility  
11          for used nuclear fuel that is now stored at 80 separate sites in 41 states, of which  
12          several are in the Midwest, including 3 in Wisconsin; and

13          Whereas, 105 H.R. 1270 and 105 S. 104 would help ensure that nuclear waste  
14          produced by commercial power plants would be stored at one location in a remote and  
15          unpopulated area, enabling safety and cost efficiencies to be maximized; now,  
16          therefore, be it

17          ***Resolved by the assembly, That*** the Wisconsin assembly endorses the  
18          legislative efforts of 105 H.R. 1270 and 105 S. 104 to reform the federal government's  
19          management of used fuel from nuclear power plants and defense programs, calls this  
20          effort to the attention of all state citizens, and urges the leadership of the U.S. house  
21          of representatives and the U.S. senate to convene a conference committee to pass this  
22          legislation to expedite the resolution of the country's current nuclear waste storage  
23          situation; and, be it further

24          ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this resolution  
25          to the President of the United States, the secretary of the U.S. department of energy,

1 the speaker of the U.S. house of representatives, the majority leader of the U.S.  
2 senate and each member of Wisconsin's congressional delegation.

3 (END)