

FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SEN. BOB DOLE
NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510
(202) 225-8947

FOR RELEASE: SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1971

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 7 --- U.S. Senators James B. Pearson, Bob Dole and U.S. Representatives Garner E. Shriver, Larry Winn and Keith Sebelius disclosed today the contents of a report by the Environmental Protection Agency on the potential environmental impact of the radioactive waste depository to be located near Lyons, Kansas.

The Kansas Republicans said the report pointed out the need for further review of the environmental and safety implications of the of the project.

The report summarized the results of an evaluation by the Radiation office and the Water Quality Office of EPA. The evaluation was based on the Environmental statement submitted by the Atomic Energy Commission and a report by the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management of the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council.

The report concluded that although storage of radioactive waste material in salt formations appears to be the best method for such disposal, the Atomic Energy Commission had not adequately developed or referenced in its environmental impact statement the results of work it has done on this problem.

/ The EPA report suggested that the Commission should develop:

The various factors relating to the long-term integrity of the of the salt formation and its ability adequately to contain the deposited radioactive material and to prevent contamination of terrestrial and hydrologic environments.

The need for contingency plans to recover the deposited material should this be required.

The demonstration nature of the project and the Commission's plans to evaluate periodically the technical progress of the project relative to actual environmental impact or geological changes that may have occurred.

The extent and nature of long-term environmental studies and a determination as to who will conduct such studies to assess discharges that might occur and their environmental effects.