

Department of Energy has volunteered to take over the mixed waste program. They think maybe that would be a good idea. And I think they think it would be a great idea, because they have the majority of the volume of mixed waste on hand, and they don't know what they're going to do with it. They have mentioned that they're possibly looking for a state to volunteer to be a host, and that an above grade, concrete bunker facility would be ideal to meet both NRC and EPA, who both have regulation over mixed waste, that an above grade concrete bunker facility, perhaps in the Midwest, would be ideal for them to take over and store mixed waste for the rest of the country. Now should that bother you? Should you have questions there on liability and what may cost this state to stay in this compact in the future? I say, yes, and I say continue to ask the questions that you just asked on community consent, on how much it will cost us, continue to ask those questions, colleagues, because they're very good questions, and there are a lot of them left, a lot of them left. We just disposed of one with community consent, so we don't have to ask for that question anymore, I guess. But there are quite a number of good, valid questions on what this will cost us, and our rate payers, and our citizens into the future. So don't stop questioning.

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Keep going, get fired up. I support Senator Elmer's amendment as, indeed, there are two agencies that are licensing this facility. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. Senator Robin...or Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Madam President, members, the Governor's idea here is a good one, and one that I think should be adopted, recognizing the changes that we made with the Elmer and the Morrissey amendments adopted on General File, and so I'm very much in support of them. I think that they do make sense that we codify this language with that of the DEC, so that Department of Health has similar language. With that, I guess, I would just simply ask that the amendment be adopted and the bill be advanced.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Johnson. Senator Ashford. Is there anyone else who wishes to speak on the issue? Seeing none, do you have closing, Senator Elmer? Closing is waived.