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until the year 19...2010 and beyond. They have a lot of capacity. The only thing that would keep us from sending waste to South Carolina is if South Carolina suddenly decided they weren't going to take any more waste, even though they have the capacity. If that should occur, then the waste, the low-level waste, would be stored on site and our utilities have testified as to various periods of time for which they could store, on site, low-level waste, periods of time ranging from a low of 5 years to a high of 15 years. Just to give you, in case the thought occurs to you that that's not the least dangerous place to store low-level waste, let me tell you right now that high-level waste, which is thousands of times more dangerous than low-level waste, is currently being stored on site. So on-site storage, as between South Carolina and on-site storage, there is no immediate problem...

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...as to where...as to how we deal with our low-level waste. There does need to be a long-term solution. That long-term solution is now in the process of being in the beginning stages of a new construction, a reconstruction if you would have it that way. The National Conference of State Legislatures is getting people together again with the idea that the compact system has to be reformulated and redone. The techni...let me finish by just pointing out that the technological change that has...that has produced the result that we no longer need eight to twelve compacts but, in fact, we only need one or possibly two more compacts to store all of the low-level waste for all of the states for all time, that has resulted from technological advances in the packaging of low-level waste so that the space...

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...needed in the past is now only about one-seventh or one-eighth of that now.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Senator Vrtiska, followed by Senator...Senators Landis, Kristensen, Cudaback, and Bromm.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Members of the