

Wayne Allard

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ALLARD-THURMOND INTRODUCE LEGISLATION TO CODIFY DOE-SOUTH CAROLINA AGREEMENT GOAL OF BILL TO KEEP ROCKY FLATS ON TRACK FOR 2006 CLOSURE

Washington, D.C. – Colorado U.S. Senator Wayne Allard and South Carolina Senator Strom Thurmond have introduced legislation to codify into law an agreement between the Department of Energy (DOE) and the State of South Carolina concerning the disposition of plutonium being shipped from Rocky Flats to the Savannah River Site.

“The goal of this legislation is to codify the agreement between the Department of Energy and the state of South Carolina,” said Senator Allard. “This legislation will keep Rocky Flats cleanup and closure on track for 2006 while ensuring the people of South Carolina their agreement with DOE will be honored.”

Thurmond and Allard’s legislation, S. 2453, is similar to legislation introduced late last week by South Carolina Congressman Lindsey Graham in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The legislation calls for fines of up to \$100 million per year if DOE fails to meet strict processing schedules of plutonium shipped to the Savannah River Site in South Carolina. The fines would begin by 2011 if the MOX (mixed oxide fuel processing) Program hasn’t started. In addition, DOE would be required to remove all plutonium from Savannah River Site by 2017.

“This legislation provides South Carolina with an ‘ironclad’ agreement,” added Allard “It is exactly what the Governor of South Carolina has requested.”

