

Teacher Page: Case Study-Dealing with Radioactive Wastes in the U.S. (p. 315)

Unit: Unit 7

Grade Level Indicator:

Description:

Time: 25 minutes

Materials: Book page 312-313

Procedure:

Warm-up:

Instructional Strategies:

Assessment: Grade question, student participation

Variations: Do questions orally with teacher led instruction,

Interdisciplinary Connection:

Sample Data/ Answers: The answer key follows the student page.

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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1. Where does the DOE plan to build a repository for nuclear waste? _____

2. What is the biggest problem with the site? _____

3. What did Jerry Szymanski, the former top geologist for the DOE, say about the Yucca Mountain site? _____

4. Why is it a problem to have a large number of shipments? _____

5. What decision did President Barack Obama make about the Yucca Mountain site in 2009? _____

6. What is the best way to store radioactive wastes according to scientists? _____

Critical Thinking: Do you think we should be storing radioactive wastes in one central location or in regional locations? _____

Key

1. At the Yucca Mountain Desert Region
2. Earthquake prone site
3. "If water floods the site, it would cause an explosion so large that 'Chernobyl would be small potatoes'"
4. Protection from terrorist attacks
5. To cut off funding and evaluate shorter term alternatives
6. No consensus after 60 years

Critical Thinking: Answers will vary