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7838 Big Bend Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63119
(314) 961-4113

CLIENT: Bechtel National

STATION: KTVI Ch. 2

PROGRAM: 2 News

TIME: 6:00 P.M.

DATE: 1/14/84

CITY: St. Louis

DONN JOHNSON: "A new announcement tonight that a mountain of radioactive debris may have a permanent home right here in St. Louis if the Department of Energy has its way. The DOE's plans are still hot off the press but 2 NewsTeam's Earthwatch reporter Bruce Gordon says opposition is quickly mounting."

BRUCE GORDON: "The waste is a legacy of the Manhattan Project, America's first attempt to build an atomic bomb. Uranium processing here in St. Louis left behind 850,000 cubic yards of radioactive soil, now buried at three local sites, including a 22-acre plot just north of Lambert Field. The DOE wants to consolidate all three sites into one at Lambert and cover up the waste at a cost of about \$250 million. Shipping the waste to storage facilities in Utah would cost \$600 million."

Voice of DAVID ADLER (DOE site manager): "In my opinion it's difficult to justify the expenses of shipping it to a remote site."

CONG. JIM TALENT (Chesterfield): "This is clearly the worst thing to do."

GORDON: "Congressman Jim Talent says he's stunned by the DOE's recommendation. If the debris is a threat to health and safety he wants it shipped to a remote site whatever the cost; and if it isn't a serious threat Talent suggests it be left where it is and monitored."

TALENT: "Why disrupt neighborhoods, scare people, have all the guys in with the moon suits to pick it up and dump it three or four miles away in another populated area? It doesn't make a lot of sense to me."

GORDON: "Not to many others in St. Louis. Referendum votes and comments from elected officials make it clear the public wants the radioactive waste moved. The DOE's new announcement has activists sounding the alarm."

KAY DREY (nuclear activist): "Every citizen has got to act as if there's no other citizen who's going to do anything."



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I mean we all have to be sort of a committee of one and try to get through to our elected officials and beg them for help on this."

GORDON: "It is not too late for public action to make a difference. The DOE recommendation's now in the hands of the Environmental Protection Agency. A final ruling on what to do with all of this debris is probably a couple of years and many public hearings away."