

## Can we stop the 78th Texas Legislature from placing a radioactive waste dump on the largest aquifer in the United States?

Andrews County has been host for a radioactive waste processing and storage company, WCS. Over the years, WCS has brought in increasingly dangerous materials, and have even been allowed to dispose of some waste despite thorough site-specific geological evidence that shows the Ogallala and Dockum aquifers several feet below the topsoil. This aquifer recharge area is also 8 miles from the beginnings of the Lower Colorado River.

This legislative session, Senator Bivins and House Rep. "Buddy" West are to present a bill which would allow WCS to obtain a full disposal license that they intend to use to bring in vast amounts of radioactive waste from the Department of Energy (DOE). The DOE says the estimated 250 million cubic feet of waste it will dispose of for just this decade would be enough to fill a football field 434 stories high!

The Ogallala aquifer is enormous and ranges below **South Dakota**, **Nebraska**, **Kansas**, **Wyoming**, **Colorado**, **New Mexico**, **Oklahoma**, **and Texas**. Texas already has a site which poses a risk to this incredible water resource, and that site is Pantex, the DOE's primary location for storing plutonium and building nuclear weapons. Pantex has been found to leak toxic materials into the Ogallala over the decades, but now WCS wants to make billions of dollars with a nuclear waste dump in Andrews County, which would put the Ogallala at greatly increased risk. **Every radioactive waste dump built to date has leaked**, **and Andrews would be no different.** 

For more on this issue, please visit http://www.RadTexas.org and http://AndrewsNuclearWasteDump.org. Our actions page will have contact information for relevant Committee members and updates.

Please contact Texas representatives and voice your opposition.

House Committee on Environmental Regulation Office: EXT E2.154 - Phone: (512) 463-0776 Senate Committee on Natural Resources- Office: SHB 325 - Phone: 463-0390

