

NUCLEAR: Oahu optional site to store spent fuel

Continued from Page A-1
nuclear materials from other areas."

Anderson said the state "now has an agreement with Washington state, where we send our low-level waste for disposal."

He added that the state does not get involved with the disposal of nuclear materials that may come off the submarines that are serviced at Pearl Harbor.

"That is all controlled by the

Oahu could get nuclear waste

S-B 9/2/93 AI
 But isle officials say the Pearl Harbor option is just not appropriate

From staff and wire reports

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer today reported that four Navy shipyards, including Pearl Harbor, and three Energy Department facilities are listed as alternatives for the permanent storage of spent nuclear fuel from Navy vessels, Energy Department reactors and

an assortment of private power plants.

In addition, the Energy Department says it will study six major seaports to analyze the risks of importing high-level spent fuel from foreign research reactors.

The sites are being proposed as alternatives to the government's controversial use of the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory complex for storage of high-level nuclear waste. It was closed in June by a federal court until an in-depth environmental study is completed.

However, Hawaii state health officials believe it would be inappropriate

for the Department of Energy to establish a permanent nuclear waste site at Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Rep. Patsy Mink questions whether the waste could be stored at Pearl Harbor without a detailed environmental impact statement and "that could take years."

Mink says it has been her understanding that no nuclear waste is stored at Pearl Harbor, so she doesn't understand how the military could justify the use of the Oahu facility as a temporary nuclear storage site.

The Hawaii Democrat also pointed out that she has supported congressio-

nal legislation that would give affected states such as Hawaii and Idaho a say in such military decisions involving nuclear wastes. "This is clearly a situation with which the state of Hawaii would have to be given opportunity to intervene," Mink said.

Bruce Anderson, deputy state health director, said he was not familiar with the proposal but said, "The Health Department always has had grave concerns when there is talk of establishing a permanent storage facility here to accept or import

See NUCLEAR, Page A-8