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The Energy Department is interested in potentially using the nation's first proposed commercial storage site for nuclear plants' spent fuel, but it will probably need Congress' help, Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz said today.

"Clearly up to now our plans, our administration plan for interim storage, was clearly based around the idea of a federal facility," Moniz told reporters on the Hill. "But this could be an interesting dynamic."

"My guess is in the end there would need to be some legislative approach for us because if we're the customer, for example, would there be access to the waste fund for that?" Moniz added. "That clearly requires congressional action."

Texas-based Waste Control Specialists [announced](#) earlier this month that it plans to develop an interim consolidated storage facility for spent fuel from reactors. The proposal comes as the U.S. still lacks a permanent nuclear waste repository following the demise of plans to create one beneath Nevada's Yucca Mountain.

— *Alex Guillen*