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**To:** "secy@nrc.gov" <secy@nrc.gov>  
**Date:** Tue, May 13, 2003 7:21 AM  
**Subject:** Stop Radioactive Poisoning of Recycling! - 68 FR 40: 9595-9602

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May 13, 2003 (11:02AM)

Secretary, Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff  
Washington, DC 20555

OFFICE OF SECRETARY  
RULEMAKINGS AND  
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

Dear ,

As a western world citizen I consider myself to be response-able for taking care of my part of the world for my children, their children, and their childrens childres, to live upon and enjoy. I believe fervently as a design engineer in industry that it is your responsibility to ensure we as a community do more than our parents to ensure this will be more of a possibility than it was for my parents.

To generate electricity for 30-40 years with nuclear materials and then store them well for another 30, afterwhich increasing amounts of damage will slowly be done to the planet for the next 45,000 – 80,000 years is quite simply not possibly economic, nor logical, for the community as a whole.

In the immediate future the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission must abandon its efforts to deregulate radioactive wastes. All atomic waste and materials potentially contaminated with radioactivity from nuclear industry processes must be isolated from the environment and the public.

It is also unfair to shift the burden of measuring and isolating radioactive materials from the nuclear power industry, which profits from generating atomic waste, to clean recycling industries that do not generate such long-lasting and harmful materials.

Likewise materials should not be dumped in landfills where everything else in the landfill will slowly become radioactive. The waste will in turn contaminate drinking water supplies, soil, air, flora and fauna for roughly 1,500 to 3,000 generations to come.

Permitting radioactively contaminated materials into everyday commerce not only increases health risks to workers, the public and the environment but also puts recycling industries / manufacturers / retailers and solid waste facilities under unreasonable safety, financial, and legal strain and risk.

The US Nuclear Regulatory Commission must refocus its resources to maintain control and isolation of nuclear materials rather than "justifying" deliberate loss of control.

Neither "release" nor "dispose at Environmental Protection Agency waste sites" options are acceptable. Radioactive materials should remain in specifically licensed radioactive facilities under regulatory control with the goal of isolation from the public and environment.

"Conditional use" or "restricted release" of radioactive materials for industrial uses instead of personal use will still result in radiation exposure to workers

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and members of the public and should be prevented. There are no mechanisms in place to track the end uses of recycled materials to guarantee they do not get into personal use items, even if they are originally released with the intent of limited use.

We oppose the exemption of radioactive and potentially radioactive materials from regulatory control and call on the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission to enforce a prohibition on release and recycling of such materials.

Keep nuclear waste out of recycling supplies and out of landfills for my children and your children.

Sincerely,

Craig Warrender  
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Bowling Green  
Stokenchurch,  
United Kingdom