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Waste Awareness and Reduction Network

NC WARN



May 22, 2003

Spent Fuel Officer
Attn: Ms. Amy Snyder
Mail Stop 013-D13
U.S. NRC
Washington, DC 20555-011

2/21/03
68 FR 6530
(87)

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Rules and Directives
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Subject: A Citizens' Hearing on Nuclear Waste: Reducing Risks

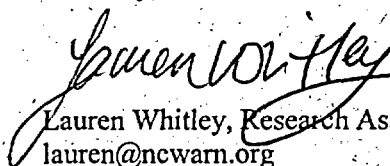
Dear Ms. Snyder:

I am writing to inform you of a Citizens' Hearing on Nuclear Risk Reduction, sponsored by **Public Citizen** and **NC WARN**, to be held on Saturday, May 31st, from 10am to 3pm at Salem Elementary School, 6116 Old Jenks Rd, in Apex, North Carolina.

As you are surely aware, the issues of nuclear waste transportation and its storage are of significant concern to our organization and our community. Many citizens in North Carolina have been particularly frustrated with the NRC in the past due to the manner in which your agency handled the expansion of the Shearon Harris nuclear plant in Wake County. By allowing Progress Energy, the owner of the Harris plant, to expand its nuclear waste storage capacity with no opportunity for scientific hearings, or without a required Environmental Impact Statement, many individuals and local governments in this region feel disillusioned with the NRC and its role as a regulatory agency.

This hearing is planned in response to the 02/21/02 Federal Register Notice inviting public comment on the NRC's draft test protocol for the Package Performance Study (PPS). It is strategically located in North Carolina, currently the only state where nuclear waste is being transported, to provide the space for citizens to comment and express their concerns about this Package Performance Study, and current methods for storing nuclear waste in the state, and to encourage North Carolina citizen involvement in your public comment process. As we will be collecting public comments from those who attend the event we urge you to take these comments into account, even though you will be receiving them the day after the close of the official public comment period on PPS.

Sincerely,


Lauren Whitley, Research Associate
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