

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

(231)

DOCKET NUMBER
PROPOSED RULE 20
(68FR 09595)

I was shocked and disturbed to recently learn that you are risking the health of the public to increase nuclear industry profits. For the sake of national health, please abandon your efforts to deregulate radioactive wastes. It is irresponsible and immoral to expose the public to potentially contaminated radioactive materials from the nuclear industry. They must be isolated and safely contained.

In past years, the NRC openly acknowledged that they consider any amount of radiation to pose an increased health risk with maladies such as cancer and birth defects. Now, you are relying upon a "scientific" document produced by Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) to justify your recycling of radioactive materials, despite a clearly demonstrated conflict of interest within the study. Many concerned individuals are aware of this corruption and will not stand for it.

Allowing radioactive materials to be released into everyday commerce risks the health of thousands of Americans. The nuclear industry created this waste and has a responsibility to keep it stored away from humans. Radioactive materials should not be dumped into landfills. Even the most technologically advanced landfills leak as time passes, leading to contamination of drinking water, soil, air, and plant life for countless generations.

All radioactive materials must remain isolated in licensed facilities under regulatory control as long as they pose this serious environmental threat. I strongly oppose the release of any potentially radioactive waste and urge the NRC to prohibit the release and recycling of these substances.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Hurst
4 Fairhurst@MSN.com
1018 Thomasville Road
Suite 200R
Tallahassee, FL 32303

DOCKETED
USNRC

June 18, 2003 (11:34AM)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKING AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

Template = SECY-067

SECY-02