

**Draft Policy Statement
(68FR62642)**

**DOCKETED
USNRC**

December 2, 2003 (11:23AM)

**OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF**

**Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001**

Attn: Rulemakings and Adjudication Staff

**Re: Policy Statement on the Treatment of Environmental Justice Matters in NRC
Regulatory and Licensing Actions (Federal Register, November 5, 2003, V. 68,
No. 214; pp 62642-62645)**

Dear Secretary:

I am writing to request an extension of the public comment period for the draft policy statement referenced above.

As you know, this draft policy statement represents the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's position on how to address fundamental matters of human rights, racial bigotry, and environmental justice. As such, this draft policy statement has an importance that transcends the extremely important nuclear siting issues it is narrowly focused upon; it is a statement that has relevance and meaning societally as well.

I believe a draft policy of such broad public interest should receive broad public comment and participation from Americans from every part of the country.

Therefore, I respectfully request that the NRC hold no less than ten public meetings, in widely separated parts of the United States, where NRC officials will explain this draft policy, and accept oral public comment. I suggest that, among other possible locations, that these meetings be held in Chicago; Port Gibson, Mississippi; Homer, Louisiana; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Charlottesville, Virginia; Las Vegas, Nevada; San Francisco, California; New York, NY; Atlanta and Washington, DC in order to achieve the broadest possible public involvement.

I also respectfully insist that the public comment period be extended by approximately 180 days, or until July 4, 2004—a date which I am convinced the NRC will agree would represent an appropriate conclusion for an issue involving fundamental human rights.

I look forward to your speedy response.

Sincerely,

MARK WIEDER



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