

## **Rulemaking1CEm Resource**

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**Sent:** Tuesday, December 24, 2013 8:24 AM  
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**SECY DOCKET DATE:** 12/18/13  
**TITLE:** Waste Confidence—Continued Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel  
**COMMENT#:** 00616

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# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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**Docket:** NRC-2012-0246

Consideration of Environmental Impacts on Temporary Storage of Spent Fuel After Cessation of Reactor Operation

**Comment On:** NRC-2012-0246-0456

Waste Confidence - Continued Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel; Extension of Comment Period

**Document:** NRC-2012-0246-DRAFT-1080

Comment on FR Doc # 2013-26726

## Submitter Information

**Name:** Carol Kurz

## General Comment

I believe everyone agrees that nuclear spent fuel rods will be radioactive for 10's of 1000's of years. If that is the case, then how can this waste be stored "safely" above ground, either next to reactors or at some interim storage site (where "interim" is an undetermined length of time---decades, centuries??).

The only responsible solution is to bury this waste in a geologically safe repository below ground. Finland and Sweden are doing this. We almost did it at Yucca. However, that site had geological and political complications making it a poor choice. The search must continue for a safe site.

Spent fuel cannot be stored safely above ground in dry casks indefinitely for 100's of years--or forever. The casks do not last that long; the cost of moving the fuel to new casks would be prohibitive. The high burn up fuel being introduced doesn't last longer than 20 years in a dry cask further complicating such a scenario.

In addition, plants are close to population centers--over 1/3 of the U.S. population now lives within 50 miles of a nuclear power plant. Many plants are in flood plains, or in earthquake, hurricane, or tornado zones. With climate change making weather patterns ever more violent, such incidents will only make these rapidly aging plants more accident prone.

Nuclear waste is the problem. Rods have to be stored in fuel pools until they are "cool" enough for casks. Our spent fuel pools are already more crowded than Fukushima's pools. Shall we continue to create more fuel to bury? How many "holes" will we need?

Nuclear energy is a 20th century product. We need 21st century ideas. Warren Buffet just spent 1 billion on wind in Iowa. It made economic sense. Wind is a safe, clean energy that does not leave harmful waste for 10's of 1000's of years. Is there a message here??