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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-1190

Comment on FR Doc # 2013-26726

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General Comment

Forty years ago in the suburbs of St. Louis, Missouri, the NRC allowed the unlicensed dumping in a now residential area of the largest amount of Thorium-230 in any actual nuclear waste disposal site in the country. It remains there today, one of the NRC's waste sites that cannot be delegated the proper remediation due to legal maneuverings at a time, the 1970s, when every aspect of the Federal nuclear program knew the risks to the public and yet allowed itself to transfer ownership of its waste in an intentional loophole irradiation of a large population. Although this rule, Docket ID NRC-2012-0246, applies to nuclear power spent fuel, it is of the same mindset which since the inception of the Manhattan Project has poisoned so many lives with the exposure and impending exposure of burgeoning radioactivity at fuel and waste sites. There is no conscionable choice when there is no actual scientific solution. I applaud the Federal judge who has questioned the NRC's legal maneuvering, and the intention to force a solution by requiring one for spent fuel. Without nuclear waste and spent fuel storage options that are protective of, at least, human life and genetic diversity, there should never be a temporary arrangement for the nuclear industry watchdog, the NRC. The waste we speak of has thousands to hundreds of thousands of years of known activity and necessary oversight, and its impact on the environment beyond radioactive exposure is not being assessed adequately by any U.S. government agency. The National Academy of Sciences has written of the looming issues from the lack of solutions to our nuclear waste problem on this continent. The public knows full well the cancer and genetic diseases, but has no way other than citizen comment to express the experiences of hundreds of thousands whose health has been impacted, and who have died prematurely from exposure to nuclear processes and waste. Without a waste and fuel storage solution, there should be absolutely NO PUBLIC FUNDING for this form of energy. The risks known and unknown of

widespread accidental contamination to large population centers in and of themselves have never been disclosed and are instead minimized by a long program of secrecy. We need to focus on cleaning up the sites already contaminating Americans every day, before we allow more of the same 70 years after the Manhattan Project. Robert Oppenheimer recriminated himself for Pandora's box, and the U.S. court system remembers and demands accountability before even more widespread contamination become part of the innumerable and many unaccounted for "Legacy" sites on both U.S. and Native American soil. Please do not allow this reckless and disputed policy to become law.