

RulemakingComments Resource

From: Saab Lofton <saablofton@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2015 3:32 PM
To: RulemakingComments Resource
Subject: [External_Sender] Enter Your Action Subject

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Secretary,

Nuclear power generates more than 95% of the radioactivity buried at commercial radioactive waste dumps in the U.S. Some of that waste stays dangerous for literally millions of years.

All of the six "first generation" "low-level" radioactive waste dumps that opened in the 1960s have leaked; some are still leaking. Operating dumps currently are open in UT, TX, SC and WA. In addition, a lot of nuclear waste is processed in Tennessee and then sent on to those states. The NRC is proposing a rule change that would apply to these operating sites as well as any new dumps.

These weakened rules would let the public be exposed to a lot more radioactivity than is currently allowed by adopting the "updated" radiation regimen called EDE (Effective Dose Equivalent (EDE) allows more radioactivity per millirem for many radionuclides; we opposed this when NCR adopted it in other parts of its regulations and oppose incorporating it here for the same reasons). Allowable doses to the public would be raised from the existing 25 millirems a year to 25, 100, 500 or more millirems EDE per year. Of course, the NRC continues to ignore research that shows radiation causes even more cancer and cancer deaths in women and children than men and threatens the reproductive phase of our life-cycle.

Under the proposal, dump operators could accept and bury just about any kind of nuclear waste that they want simply by doing a computer-model "performance assessment" and then claiming it's safe. The same entities that would profit by expanding their waste streams would do their own calculations to claim they can be safely managed for millions of years!

NRC also wants to prevent states from setting their own stricter standards, even though states usually end up with the liability from nuclear waste sites.

NO radioactive waste deregulation! Any rules changes should lead to more protective standards, not increased radiation exposures!

Saab Lofton
619 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104