

From: [Ellen Atkinson](#)
To: [RulemakingComments Resource](#)
Subject: [External_Sender] Docket ID NRC-2016-0179
Date: Thursday, January 12, 2017 3:56:21 PM

Dear Friends,

Any changes to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) and U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) regulations, to "harmonize" them (make them compatible) with International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) regulations and standards, should be in the direction of better protecting worker and public health, safety, and the environment ("better" in the clear sense of protecting people and the planet, not in the *Nukespeak* sense of saving the industry money in order to boost its profits!). That is, if IAEA's regulations and standards are stronger, those should become NRC's/DOT's. But if NRC's/DOT's happen to be stronger, then those should remain -- and NRC/DOT should urge IAEA to strengthen its standards. In fact, if there are regulations in a certain country that are stronger/better than IAEA's and/or NRC's/DOT's, then those best-practices should be used to strengthen IAEA's and/or NRC's/DOT's regulations. The point is, the regulations -- at NRC/DOT in the U.S., at IAEA internationally, etc. -- should be strengthened to the highest standards and best-practices, not weakened to the lowest common denominator.

Thanks for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
Ellen Atkinson
Reno, NV