

From: [Cynthia McNamara](#)
To: [RulemakingComments Resource](#)
Subject: [External_Sender] Radioactive Waste Transport Container Regulatory Revisions
Date: Saturday, January 14, 2017 6:03:16 PM

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission:

Any changes to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) and U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) regulations made 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 protection" should be taken in the clear sense of protecting people and the planet, not in the 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 regulations -- at NRC/DOT in the U.S. and at IAEA internationally -- should be strengthened to the highest standards and best-practices, not weakened to the lowest common denominator. I urge you to apply this rule of thumb in the upcoming revisions.

Sincerely,
Cynthia McNamara