

Los Angeles Federation of Scientists
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January 4, 1982

Director
Office of Administration
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT REQUEST

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST (II)

FOIA-82-10
Ret'd 1-15-82

Gentleperson:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552, and the NRC's Regulations as to Public Records, 10 CFR Part 9, the Los Angeles Federation of Scientists herewith requests that it be provided the following documents or categories of documents:

(1) records indicating how, where, when, and what radioactive wastes were disposed of by the Atomic Energy Project at UCLA, operated for the USAEC beginning in the 1940s and continuing to this day, under succeeding names (Laboratory of Nuclear Medicine and Radiation Biology, Laboratory of Biomedical and Environmental Sciences). By how disposed we mean disposal method (i.e. soil burial, sea disposal); by where we mean precise location of the disposal site; by when we mean the period of time during which said disposal took place; and by what radwastes we mean for each method, location, and time period, which isotopes, in what quantities, were disposed of as waste in what forms (e.g. lab animals, leaking sources, etc.) These records to include all available records from the inception of the Atomic Energy Project.

(2) records providing the information requested in (1) above except relating to the Atomic International facilities in Southern California, likewise beginning at their inception.

(3) records providing the information requested in (1) above, except for UCLA facilities other than the Atomic Energy Project or its successors.

(4) all records besides those identified in (1), (2) and (3) above which detail how and where radioactive wastes generated in Southern California from 1940-1968 were disposed of. This to include hospitals, universities, research centers, private industry, and nuclear reactor and nuclear weapons facilities. As commercial land-based disposal sites did not open until 1962, we are particularly interested in information about how and where radwaste was disposed of prior to that time, particularly those wastes generated in Southern California that may have been disposed of in Southern California.

As per 10 CFR 9.14a, we request the search and copying fees be waived. Information obtained from the materials will, after analysis by scientists volunteering their time in the public interest, be released in the form of a publicly available study of radwaste policy, with a special focus on Southern California experience. Any information that can help determine whether any locally generated radwaste was buried at the Veterans Administration facility in West Los Angeles prior to 1960 will be provided the public in the form of comments on a Draft Environmental Statement considering conversion of the area to a park. Interest will be served by the availability of or public assurance if warranted or official action

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stimulated, if warranted.

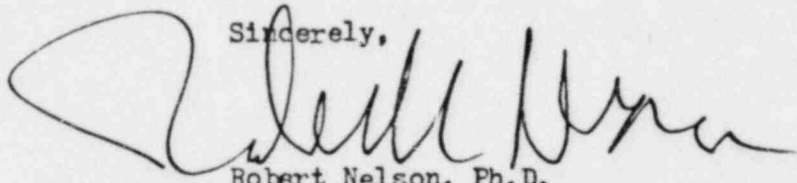
We request that any classified documents identified in your search be sent for de-classification review, that such review be expedited, and where possible, de-classification occur and those documents be provided to us.

We request that any documents determined to be available in the Public Document Room be provided directly rather than referring us to the PDR. We do this because (1) there is no LPDR in our area for these documents, (2) the documents go back to the forties and fifties, thus some records normally expected to be in the PDR are likely to be missing there, and (3) the Draft Environmental Statement for which our comments are to be made requires such comments in a matter of a few weeks, necessitating reduction of all possible delays.

In order to expedite matters, a copy of this request has been provided to NRC Region V. A similar request is being addressed to DOE for those documents which it may possess that may not be in NRC files.

We look forward to your early response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Robert Nelson', is written over the typed name.

Robert Nelson, Ph.D.
Co-Chairperson
Los Angeles Federation of Scientists

cc: NRC Region V HQ