

50-160

Linda Stauffer
2371 Strawn Road
Winston, Ga. 30187-1470
January 18, 1995

Oscar Dimiranda
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Suite 2900
101 Marietta Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30223

RECEIVED
NRC REGION II
BY: CDW / DATE 1/23/95

Dear Mr. Dimiranda,

I support Pamela Blockey-O'Brien's "Petition for Directors Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206 to the NRC on October 3, 1994 (USNRC Docket 50-160). The following are reasons for my support.

- 1) Our organic mini-farm, which supplies organic herbs and vegetables to Atlanta restaurants, is located 20 miles outside of Atlanta. Given the condition of the reactor, its history, and the variable wind direction from the shifting fronts, our livelihood from the farm is threatened by the real possibility of a nuclear mishap.
- 2) People can not dump every/any kind of chemical or nuclear waste into the environment without some effect on people and the environment. A synergistic effect results beyond human knowledge. In other words, with a combination of these chemicals and nuclear waste, we will have results we will not know how to live with.
- 3) The ultimate problem is not nuclear waste storage. Every place on earth has become a waste storage facility through human initiative. Eventhough, radioactive material is a natural part of the earth, it used to be in the right place at the right time with minimal effects on humans. We have displaced it with damaging effects, some yet to be seen.
- 4) We have become the most vulnerable nation on earth. Our nuclear facilities pose a threat internally through contamination and externally from sabotage and attack. We have only one choice. Discontinue nuclear proliferation in order to survive. It's time to stop creating problems with nuclear facilities and put our energy and resources into livable energy solutions.

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These basic statements seem logically apparent to me. It scares me that they are not apparent to paid professionals. That's even a bigger problem. It causes mistrust of authorities, people I'd like to be able to depend on. Even worse, I've lost respect for these people. I don't see how they can respect themselves, assessing the disastrous effects they are having on not only people they don't know, but also on themselves, their families, their **friends**, and all their progeny.

Sincerely in prayer for
human sanity to be regained,

Linda Stauffer

P.S. If the requests in this petition are denied, I want to know why. As a human being, I want to understand why and how a decision to destroy instead of create is made.

RADIATION - UNSAFE AT ANY LEVEL

IMPORTANT PETITION AGAINST EXPOSURE TO RADIATION I

PETITION TO THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION AND THE AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY (A DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE/ U.S. DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES) IN SUPPORT OF PAMELA BLOCKEY-OWENS'S "PETITION FOR DIRECTOR'S DECISION UNDER 10 CFR 2.206 TO THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION ON OCT. 3RD, 1994" (USNRC DOCKET 50-160)

FOR:

- A) Licence revocation and shutdown of the Reactor Nuclear Research Reactor and support facilities and removal of all radioactive contamination and materials. The reactor is on the campus of the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) in downtown Atlanta, near housing for the poor and adjacent to where 10,000 Olympic Athletes/visitors will be housed. It is on unstable ground, has no real containment dome, is in an earthquake zone, has contaminated surrounding soil, vegetation and sewer systems, vents radiation to air and has a history of problems. Approx. 400,000 Curies of (radioactive) Cobalt-60 are also stored on site and approx. 6,000 Curies of Cesium-137 are stored under the floor of a nearby building.
- B) Licence withdrawal NATIONWIDE involving the discharge or dumping of ANY quantity of radioactive material to all sewers or waters of the United States or oceans of the world.
- C) Licence withdrawal from ALL nuclear facilities, including nuclear power plants, nationwide, which operate under "As Low As Reasonably Achievable" (ALARA) principles.

Explanation of reasons for request to NRC:

Contrary to popular belief, the entire nuclear fuel cycle - from mining of uranium, to transportation of nuclear materials, to manufacture of nuclear weapons/projectiles/so-called "Depleted Uranium" armour piercing munitions, to nuclear power plant and nuclear research reactors - ALLOWS the emission of DEADLY RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS TO AIR, SOIL, VEGETATION AND WATER, as they operate under a system called "ALARA". It means, you're allowed to release radioactive crud to the environment as long as releases are kept As Low As Reasonably Achievable i.e. ALARA, depending on what you want to spend on containing releases, what available equipment you have, and such. In other words it puts economics above concern for health and the environment. Due to the nature of radiation, such releases under ALARA permit illness, contamination and deaths. The only way to avoid these deaths - which medical nuclear expert Dr. John Gofman calls "planned deaths" - is to have ZERO releases.

THERE IS NO "SAFE LEVEL" OF RADIATION, whether naturally occurring or human made. The so-called "permissible" and "allowable" doses/limits/guidelines/standards are a bunch of hogwash. They grew out of recommendations made 44 years ago by the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP). The ICRP itself had accepted standards agreed upon by nuclear physicists from the Manhattan Project (WWII atomic bomb project) even though these physicists had NO health credentials. Although the ICRP has issued some updates it persists in its basic views/recommendations "to allow reasonable latitude for the expansion of atomic energy programs" - not to protect health. Even NRC admitted in 1978 there was no safe level of exposure, a fact that had been known for years. The effects of radiation are cumulative. Any exposure constitutes a threat as ionizing radiation seriously disrupts the chemistry of the cell, leading to later events we may see as lymphoma, leukemia, breast or lung cancer, asthma, spontaneous abortion, heart problems, deformed offspring, sterility, ovarian/reproductive problems, thyroid problems, or death. Workers in nuclear industries are allowed to be exposed to even higher levels of radiation than the current appalling levels allow to the general public. Furthermore, as soon as they enter the workplace such workers are not considered to be "members of the public" by NRC and industry any more, so less protection is given. The deadly effects of Cobalt-60 and Cesium-137 are well known. Cobalt-60's effect on DNA at low exposure are horrendous, let alone that exposure to CO-60 and C-137 can kill.

Radiation cannot be rendered harmless. It has to decay to its stable state which may take millions of years. The term "half-life" means nothing except that its still radioactive. e.g. if you took Cesium-137, (with a half-life of approx. 30 years) in the amount of a pound, at the end of thirty years, you'd have half a pound, at the end of 30 more years a quarter of a pound, at the end of 30 more years an eighth of a pound etc. it takes 20 half-lives on average for something to go through various stages of radioactive decay to become stable/harmless (this example is given to illustrate the idea of "half-life" & is a useless phrase when it comes to safety, as most people think when the half-life is reached, everything's fine). Then radioactive contaminants are dumped to sewers, they wind up eventually often in drinking water, having contaminated lines, treatment plants, sewage sludges and creeks/rivers en route to drinking water intake plants. It is a major public health problem exposing people to yet another cumulative dose daily.

As a guardian (supposedly) of the public's health, ATSDR MUST INTERVENE and make sure requests in this petition to NRC are heard and implemented. Zero exposure to radiation from all man-made/induced activities is a must. Not much can be done about naturally occurring background radiation to which we are all exposed and which in turn causes us health problems, aging etc. but the aforementioned extra exposure can be eliminated to a great extent.

You are strongly urged to support this petition. US nuclear guidelines are generally adopted/followed worldwide, so the stupidity on this issue has already spread because press and public generally bought into all the hogwash and believed they were protected and asked few questions. Above and below ground (which vents) nuclear testing by the US, Russia, China, Britain, France and others have saturated much of the earth with fallout, causing approx. 6 million cancer deaths worldwide by 1963 (when aboveground tests stopped) which would not have otherwise occurred according to former soviet dissident nuclear scientist Andrei Sakharov. Millions more have died since. We do not need any additional exposure. Remember, radiation is unsafe at any level.

Name	Address (optional)	Town/zipcode/state (needed)
1. Linda Stauffer	2371 Strawn Rd.	Winston, Ga. 30187
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Please make three copies of (both pages) your completed petition, mail to:

1. The Executive Director, US NRC, Washington, DC 20555-0001
2. Petitioned Health Assessment Co-ordinator, John Steward, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, 1600 Clifton Rd. N.E. (E-28), Atlanta, Georgia 30333
3. Pamela Hockey-O'Brien, (I.F.O.R.), c/o D23 Golden Valley, Douglasville, Georgia 30107

Thank you for your support.

(Please copy both pages of this petition before signing and mail out to friends, groups etc. put on the Internet, fax it out. Suggested reading "NO IMMEDIATE DANGER - prognosis for a radioactive earth" by Dr. Jonelle Bartell)