

Route 1, Box 2  
Arovo, SD 57774  
December 29, 1984

G. Wayne Kerr, Director  
Office of State Programs  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Kerr:

As Chairman of the Fall River Citizens Against The Nuclear Dump, an organization which represents well over 500 Fall River County residents, I am writing to express our concern about Chem-Nuclear's proposed waste site.

We supported Initiative No. 1, which was passed by an overwhelming majority of South Dakota voters, with 61 of 66 counties voting in favor of the measure. Passage of this initiative gives the voters statewide the power to decide if South Dakota joins with other states to dispose of low-level nuclear waste and if the state is the site of a nuclear waste dump.

The only strong support for Chem-Nuclear is found in Edgemont, which is located seven miles upwind of Igloo (therefore out of the danger zone for airborne radiation). Edgemont uses water from the deep Madison aquifer, while much of the rest of the county depends upon shallow wells. But the run-off from the proposed site drains into the Cheyenne River, Lake Oahe, Missouri River, and the Mississippi River.

Approximately 70 people live within about two miles of the proposed site, and a large percentage of the rural population lives downwind of the site. These people voted overwhelmingly against the project. These facts demonstrate that there is significant opposition to establishing this type of a disposal site in this county.

We do not think the proposed site is geologically suitable for a waste dump. We feel any kind of below-ground disposal is dangerous because the contaminants eventually seep into the ground water. Also, we believe there are other options to be considered.

Any help you may be able to give us will be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Howard Henderson*

Howard Henderson, Chairman  
Fall River Citizens Against The Nuclear Dump