

SIERRA  
CLUB



NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

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PROPOSED RULE 50, 52 & 100  
(57 FR 47802)

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December 26, 1992

Secretary  
Docketing and Service  
US NRC  
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: NRC Proposed New Nuclear Reactor Regulations

Dear Secretary:

The 17,000 members of the New Jersey Sierra Club strongly oppose the proposed new reactor siting regulations which would allow higher populations near new nuclear power sites.

With so many unresolved safety problems, regulations need to be tightened up, not loosened.

The proposed allowance of NEW reactors on sites which presently do not meet the latest INADEQUATE siting guidelines is unconscionable.

The NRC's proposal to allow 1,000,000 people to reside about 30 miles from the plant, just because it represents present shoddy practice, for which many reactors have been granted grandfather siting rights (because they were built before the latest regulations were adopted) represents dereliction of responsibility by the NRC. 30 miles is a tiny distance. The poisons from Chernobyl traveled hundreds and even thousands of miles.

Grandfathering of sites by the NRC is unethical. If plants can't meet inadequate existing safety standards, they shouldn't be operated at all, and new reactors should never built on existing sites that already don't meet regulations.

Furthermore, the refusal of the NRC to adopt your own 1979 Siting Task Force recommendations listed below is further evidence of negligence. Their siting recommendations should be adopted after being made more stringent. They are:

- A. Adopt tough standoff distances from major man-made and natural hazards.
- B. Adopt tougher reduced population density requirements.
- C. Grant States rights to deny sites for nuclear plants, the same rights they now have to deny other hazardous installations.

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page 2

It is disgusting that ANYONE should NEED to express outrage over your proposed new rules. If you were doing your job properly, the issues mentioned would never even be contemplated!

Very truly yours,

*Sidney J. Goodman, P.E.*

Sidney J. Goodman, P.E., M.S.M.E.  
Energy Coordinator  
NJ Sierra Club

cc: Rep. Marge Roukema  
Sen. Bill Bradley  
Sen. Frank Lautenberg

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