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Docket: NRC-2020-0065

Transfer of Very Low-Level Waste to Exempt Persons for Disposal

Comment On: NRC-2020-0065-0001

Transfer of Very Low-Level Waste to Exempt Persons for Disposal

Document: NRC-2020-0065-DRAFT-0131

Comment on FR Doc # 2020-04506

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General Comment

Subject: Don't Intentionally Release Radioactive Waste into Our Landfills, Incinerators, Recycling, and Marketplace -- Very Low-Level Radioactive Waste Rule Changes

To the NRC:

Please do not waste resources studying the proposal to reclassify nuclear waste as Very Low-Level Radioactive Waste (VLLW) which would deliberately go to waste facilities that do not regulate for radioactivity. Please do not proceed with carving out a new category of radioactive waste that will be exempt from radioactive controls.

Keep all nuclear waste under radioactive regulatory controls. Don't let it out into our lives, air, water, consumer and industrial goods, landfills, incinerators, or any other unregulated destination.

The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), the nuclear power industry think tank and advocate, calculates they could save \$6 Billion dollars and release more than 59 million cubic feet of nuclear power waste, if the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) changes the regulations to allow members of the public and non-nuclear workers to get up to five additional millirems a year from each deregulated waste stream. Say NO to this or any level. The goal must be to PREVENT exposures, not legalize them. Five mr/year for a seventy year lifetime would cause cancer in one in of every 2,500 of us exposed.

The large volumes of nuclear waste that would be released are laden with radioactivity that is long-lasting, biologically dangerous and hard to detect. It might not be highly concentrated but it can be more dangerous if it is dispersed unregulated, rather than isolated at licensed radioactive disposal sites.

Small amounts of radioactivity can cause cancer and other bad health effects. Thus the nuclear industry must be required to do its best to keep that radioactivity from getting out and further dispersed or concentrated in the regular garbage, recycling into consumer goods, and the environment. It is the job of the NRC to regulate, not deregulate, nuclear waste.

Thank you for your consideration.