

From: Ned Flaherty <Ned_Flaherty@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 10:27 AM
To: VLLWTransferComments Resource
Subject: [External_Sender] Reject nuclear waste in landfills--VLLW reinterpretation

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (VLLW)

RE: Reject nuclear waste in landfills--VLLW reinterpretation

Dear ,

To the NRC VLLW Docket NRC-2020-0065

Reject nuclear waste in landfills--VLLW reinterpretation

Entire nuclear reactors become radioactive or get contaminated with radioactivity while making electricity, so all that waste is licensed radioactive material and waste.

I support the CURRENT interpretation of U.S. nuclear regulations, which requires that licensed nuclear material and waste be in the possession of persons licensed under the Atomic Energy Act to handle/dispose nuclear waste.

I oppose the VLLW plan to reinterpret the rules and let nuclear waste go to un-licensed places. Managing nuclear power waste must remain the legal and financial responsibility of the licensed creators.

I do not want nuclear waste in any local landfills., or in hazardous/industrial waste sites where the radioactivity can make public exposures even more harmful (recycling, incinerators, etc.).

This VLLW proposal would allow entire nuclear reactors to be dumped or left as if non-radioactive.

I object to the secretive nature of this whole process, including that communities need not be notified or allowed to intervene when their landfill or other facility is applying or approved as "specific exempt."

There is no requirement or mechanism to verify or enforce the kinds and amounts of waste and leakage.

VLLW is not just "slightly contaminated" waste --- it would allow ALL the waste (maybe even more) that now goes to licensed nuclear waste sites to go to regular garbage. The allowable level could cause cancer for 1 in 500 people from lifetime exposure.

This proposal is even more bold and expansive than the similar Below Regulatory Control policies that the public and Congress revoked in the 1990s.

Can states and local governments reject, or must they adopt this reinterpretation? Is it, in fact, voluntary?

Do not proceed with this "interpretive" rule change which really is a complete reversal in regulation requiring environmental impact statements both nationally and at each site.

Keep nuclear waste under nuclear regulatory controls.

Thank you,

Sincerely,
Mr. Ned Flaherty
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Boston, MA 02131
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Comment Number: 3135

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