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Secretary

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Washington D.C. 20555

Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff

I have learned through Ralph Nader's Public Citizen News, issue November/December 1999, that radioactive metal is New being sold by the Department of Energy to scrap metal dealers. The D.O.E. has 1.4 million tons of contaminated metals that it hopes to sell off. Your Nuclear Regulatory Commission has asked the public for it's opinion on the level of radioactivity we want to accept. We are not nuclear scientists, but simple observation at the dentist office tells us something when the dental assistant leaves the room with us under a lead bib before taking an X-Ray. Therefore rather than to draw some regulations and administer funding for the government to monitor the D.O.E. which has already gone ahead with the sell of radioactive metals without the public's knowledge or approval, I urge the Commission to enforce a No Sell policy.

Most Sincerely.

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## **Activist Alert**

## Warning: Products You Are Buying May Be Radioactive!

The nuclear power and weapons industries, the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) want to dispose of radioactive waste by recycling it into consumer products. Instead of storing it responsibly, the generators of this waste want to profit by using the waste to make new products. If products made with these materials are sold to the public, untold numbers of people

could be exposed to radiation through their braces, silverware, and virtually any other material.

Radioactive metal is already being sold by the DOE to scrap metal dealers. According to the

Department of Energy National Center of Excellence for Metals Recycle Web site, DOE facilities have 1.4 million tons of metal they plan to recycle. The material is already being released on a case-by-case basis and is being manufactured into new products without any warning labels.

The NRC is preparing to set standards to legalize the large-

scale release of these contaminated materials for recycling. It is currently requesting public comments on assumptions and estimates of radiation doses from materials made with recycled radioactive copper, steel, aluminum and concrete. Write to the NRC and tell them that no dose is acceptable! Exposures to radiation should be avoided as much as possible, not increased through an industrybacked rulemaking!

Submit comments to: Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Washington, DC 20555. Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff

1600 20th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20009 (202) 588-1000 nail: public\_ctizen@ctizen.org internet: www.citizen.org

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Public Citizen is a national nonprofit membership organization based in Washington, D.C. Since its founding by Ralph Nader in 1971, Public Citizen has fought for corporate and government accountability in order to guarantee the individual's right to safe products, a healthy environment and workplace, fair trade, and clean and safe energy sources. Public Citizen is active in every public forum: Congress, the courts, government agencies, and the news media.

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