

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

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ACTION OFFICE: EDO

To: Collins, NRA

AUTHOR: MICHELE RIDDELL

Cop: EDO
DEOMRS
DEDR
DEDM
AO

AFFILIATION: NY

ADDRESSEE:

NMSS

SUBJECT: PROBABLISTIC RISK ASSESSMENT TECHNIQUES TO JUSTIFY THE EXISTING
SPENT FUEL POOL DESIGN...

ACTION: Appropriate

DISTRIBUTION: CHAIRMAN, COMRS

LETTER DATE: 04/07/2000

ACKNOWLEDGED No

SPECIAL HANDLING: OCM #2155

NOTES:

FILE LOCATION: ADAMS

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Attention, Commissioner Merserve, April 7, 2000

The NRC is trying to use probabilistic risk assessment techniques to justify the existing spent fuel pool design as being safe. You (NRC) propose to justify generic regulatory relief in the areas of emergency planning, insurance indemnification and safeguards for power plant owners.

However, in May of 1975, senior manager Stephen Hanauer of the NRC stated in a letter, that "you can make probabilistic numbers prove anything ,by which I mean , that probabilistic numbers "prove" NOTHING."

This respected technical advisor from your own commission has expressed doubts about using probabilities. Why , then, should I believe that the NRC, by using probabilistic numbers, is going to prove that spent fuel pools are safe??? How is the NRC able to use probabilities convincingly to protect health and safety? I feel that this is an invalid way of measuring safety, and should not be used.

Each day these reactors stay opened you are poisoning the environment. This is unacceptable.

Sincerely, Michele Riddell- SAFE Legacy