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From: "Frank Dixon" <fdixon@innovestgroup.com>
To: <tjn@nrc.gov>
Date: Fri, Oct 20, 2000 10:44 AM
Subject: Radioactive Homes and Playgrounds

Dear NRC representative,

I just read a story in ens-news.com which said you were considering using radioactive soil for uses including playgrounds and residential construction. The article explained that you would do lots of testing to make sure the soil was safe. Nevertheless, I find it hard to believe that you would even entertain such a concept. Even if you found the soil to be safe, the idea of it would raise strong public opposition. The only way the concept could work I believe is if you don't tell anyone the soil is being used for that purpose.

I suppose NRC could make a decision that the public doesn't need to know what their children are playing on because you've determined there is negligible risk, the way the FDA has decided it doesn't need to inform parents that their children are eating genetically modified foods. However, I think it would be wrong to not tell people what type of soil is being used.

I also think people would be suspicious of the testing process since the NRC is subject to influence by politicians who have accepted money from nuclear companies.

Bottom Line: I think the issue is a non-starter. There are other places to put the soil. For example, put it in the middle of a desert somewhere. Why put it on a child's playground.

Sincerely, Frank Dixon

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