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To: <tjn@nrc.gov>
Date: Thu, Nov 2, 2000 10:07 AM
Subject: Selling of soil and other materials from nuclear sites

65 FR 44843

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(109)

Dear Sir/Madam

An item in Science News dated 23/10/2000 under <http://www.cosmiverse.com/science102304.html> has prompted me to write to you. The proposal to sell contaminated soil and other materials from nuclear installations is fundamentally flawed on a key principle.

The whole object of restricting contaminated material to selected areas is to prevent unnecessary additional radiation exposure to people in the wider environment. By attempting to sell this material you are breaching this principle. It is indisputable that people's radiation exposure will occur if these proposals go ahead. There are no safe levels as such only what has been determined by our present state of knowledge. No one has done the work, for example, of the interaction of increased radiation on the soil micro_organisms. A proper evaluation would be too costly. So leave things as they are please.

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