

EDO

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

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ACTION OFFICE: EDO ✓

To: Kane, NMSS
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DEDMRS
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AO

AUTHOR: Becca Harber
AFFILIATION: NY
ADDRESSEE: Commissioners
SUBJECT: Concerns release of radioacative materials

ACTION: Appropriate
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January 5, 2001

Dear Commissioner of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

In whatever time you have left, please act to stop the already begun release of dangerous radioactive materials from licensed, regulated control into raw materials, building supplies and items with which we come into daily contact. This legalized release is being done by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and includes radioactively contaminated metals from nuclear weapons sites being sent to regular scrap yards to mix with clean metal for unrestricted public and commercial use. It is possible that contaminated parts, concrete rubble, and soil from nuclear power plants will be unregulated and released as well.

There is no safe level of exposure to this kind of radiation, which has been proven to increase risks of cancer, leukemia, genetic defects, reduced immunity and illnesses resulting from this, and other diseases. And some scientists have shown that risks from routine low radiation doses may actually cause more damage per unit dose than single high dose exposures.

This program exists to benefit the large companies that are in the nuclear business and will save them billions of dollars in waste storage programs that need to go on indefinitely, due to the lasting danger of radiation. If this policy that is not stopped, these dangerous materials will be around in daily life, without citizens' knowledge of where, unidentifiable and unavoidable. This supposed "radioactive recycling" is truly insane, considering the known health risks.

Please act to prohibit radioactive wastes and materials from entering the consumer marketplace, landfills, incinerators and anywhere but licensed radioactive facilities. Also direct the NRC and urge the EPA and Department of Energy to recapture radioactive wastes already released.

Sincerely,

Becca Harber
Sandy Wold
Douglas B. Shin

178A Eastman Hill Rd
Wilkesville, Ny

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Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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