

June 2, 1998

Dr. Edward Shum  
Environmental Project Manager  
Spent Fuels Project Office  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Dr. Shum:

Re: Use of Skull Valley, Utah as Storage Site for Nuclear Waste

The Utah Geological Survey clearly shows that this site has the potential for a natural disaster that boggles the mind should an earthquake occur on one of the six faults running through the area.

The findings of the survey indicate that Skull Valley is a potentially dangerous place in which to store nuclear waste because of the six faults running through the area, any one of which is capable of producing large, damaging earthquakes of at least 6.5 on the Richter scale. The 6.9 Northridge earthquake caused \$25 billion in damage and killed 72 people. This damage pales into insignificance when compared to what a quake of this magnitude could do to the environment in the State of Utah and surrounding areas that might also be affected. A beautiful part of the United State could be uninhabitable for the life span of the stored waste which I understand is some 10,000 years.

As previously stated, the potential for damage is mind-boggling. However, it is no more mind-boggling than the idea that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission would even entertain the idea of storage in such an unsafe site.

Sincerely,

Dolores K. Gurr  
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