

From: William R. Putre <wputre@aol.com>
To: <nrcprep@nrc.gov>
Date: Sat, May 5, 2001 12:36 PM
Subject: Draft Report Comments: NUREG-1714

65 FR 39206
4/23/00
271

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by William R. Putre (wputre@aol.com) on Saturday, May 5, 2001 at 12:35:34

StreetNumber: National Park Servic

StreetName: 102 Elk Creek

City: Gunnison

State: CO

ZIP: 81230

Country: USA

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USNRC

Comments: I am in favor of developing solutions to the problem of the storage of spent nuclear fuel. I am in favor of storing spent nuclear fuel in Skull Valley as petitioned. I have the following comments, though, which I would like to see addressed in the petition.

COMMENT 1: Why Skull Valley? It would be revealing to know the logic behind this choice. There are many areas in the western United States that might be considered wasteland and which might be appropriate for an interim storage facility. For example, there is an Indian reservation in eastern Utah, which is even closer to the generation sites, therefore requiring less transportation. Why not there? Also, please comment on opposition or concurrence to your proposal by other Indian tribes and by the state of Utah.

COMMENT 2: The Indians that control the Skull Valley site apparently have some interest in its development as an interim nuclear storage facility. I believe it would be revealing to know what this interest is. Are they being suitable compensated? Are they being taken advantage of?

COMMENT 3: The United States subscribes to international law which regulates the international shipment and deposit of hazardous waste. These laws were enacted in order to prevent third world countries from becoming dumping sites for first world garbage. Since Indian reservations are now classified as "nations within a nation", are we considering shipping hazardous nuclear waste to a different country? The trend is best described in the history and current status of U.S. involvement in the Basel Convention. Please demonstrate that you have researched the laws governing international shipment of hazardous waste and that you are either in compliance or that these laws do not apply in this case. In either case, is shipping hazardous waste to a lesser-developed nation (an Indian nation) the right thing to do? Additionally, you state that you will address environmental justice, however, I could find no specific address of environmental justice anywhere in the petition.

COMMENT 4: The proposed facility is stated to be "interim." I believe there should be a statement in the petition which addresses what happens after "interim" is no longer necessary or desired or runs out. Yucca Mountain continues to be a controversial alternative and it is possible that, after 20 years, we still may not have a permanent site to which we will transport SNF stored at an interim site. Please comment on any progress made by national or private authorities toward a permanent storage site for spent nuclear fuel.

COMMENT 5: I believe it is prudent to continue to store SNF at reactor sites to capacity, and then transport SNF which exceeds current site capacity to any interim storage site. This would minimize

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transportation of SNF and also minimize storage of SNF at an interim facility with no end in sight for further transfer to a permanent facility.

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