

876

Bonnie Raitt

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OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

Office of the Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555
Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff

To Whom It May Concern:

I am vehemently opposed to the NRC proposed rulemaking, as described in The Federal Register, April 16, 2001, Vol. 66 to change the licensing hearing process for nuclear power reactors. The public is entitled to full and meaningful participation in an on-the-record hearing process for the licensing of new reactors, the re-licensing of aging reactors and industry amendments to operating license safety requirements. It is the tax dollars of the citizens that fund the hearing and licensing processes, therefore our participation is of utmost importance. Stripping the democratic process from public hearings on nuclear safety is UNACCEPTABLE as a new selling point to investors considering building more atomic reactors.

Please consider that a safe future for all is at stake here. If the public is concerned enough to get involved in the hearing process, then eliminating that option will haunt those who made that decision, come the time of the inevitable next nuclear power-related "accident."

Sincerely,

Bonnie Raitt